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Kay's May needs a home

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The Bethel Citizen

Vol. CXIX - No. 02

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Andover: 64 percent vote to leave SAD 44 but 2/3 majority was needed

By Alison Aloisio

Andover has fallen short of leaving SAD 44 by eight votes.

In Tuesday's referendum, a majority of residents voted in favor of withdrawal - 238 to 131 - but a two-thirds majority (246) was needed for it to happen. The percent in favor was 64.5.

The process leading up to the vote had been going on informally and then formally for a total of three years, triggered by a SAD 44 plan in 2011 to close the Andover Elementary School.

Since then the town has paid extra money each school year to keep the school open. But the uncertainty about that arrangement concerned some residents enough to pursue possible withdrawal.

On Wednesday Susan Merrow, chair of the Andover Board of Selectmen and a member of the Andover

Withdrawal Committee, said there was an immediate effect of failing short.

"Unfortunately, two people lost contracts on selling their homes last night, so it can't be denied that knowing we will have a school in this community is important," she said.

Advocates of withdrawal had made the argument that having a school in town is important to its economic vitality.

Asked about the possibility now of negotiating an informal, multi-year agreement with SAD 44 to keep AES open (a long-term formal agreement is not legally possible), which some withdrawal opponents had proposed, Merrow said, "I truly hope those who advocated for a multi-year agreement were genuine and step up to make that happen."

See ANDOVER, Page 3

School withdrawal:

The final debate

By Alison Aloisio

Andover residents, former residents and taxpayers pled the case for and against school withdrawal at the final public hearing Saturday.

They wondered and worried about a variety of scenarios: What if they stayed in SAD 44 and Newry withdrew? What if half of Andover's elementary students wanted to go to Crescent Park instead? What if a projected 42 percent tax increase caused by withdrawal drove people from their homes?

Some favoring withdrawal stressed the need to keep decision-making about education in Andover, not with the SAD 44 School Board.

"I want to have a choice," said Sharon Hutchins, who is a SAD 44 bus driver.

Attorney Steve Hudspeth, a seasonal resident, has been advising the Andover Withdrawal Committee.

He also stressed the importance of keeping the decision-making local, and the good job he said Andover residents would do in taking care of their kids.

He also warned about what he said might happen if Newry, with its high property valuation, decided to withdraw. Citing informal discussion last year by some Newry residents about looking into a school withdrawal of its own, Hudspeth worried about the impact if that town's \$2.8 million share of the school budget went away in favor of a \$300,000-a-year tuition payment for its 30 students.

If Newry left the district and Andover remained, said Hudspeth, SAD 44 would lose \$2.5 million in funding, which would have to be made up by the other four towns. "As a taxpayer, that scares me to death," he said.

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Gould, THS students collaborate for Mahoosuc Arts event

By Matthew Daigle,
Sun Media Wire

The Mahoosuc Arts Council, in conjunction with local and out-of-state visual artists and musicians, is inviting students from Gould Academy and Telstar Regional Middle/High School to participate in a multidisciplinary visual arts performance Jan. 14, set to a classic song by composer George Gershwin.

Anarka Matolcsy, executive director of the Mahoosuc Arts Council, said the production is set to "Rhapsody in Blue," a 1924 composition by Gershwin. Students from Gould and Telstar will be working in mini-residencies with artists from the region, as well as a music professor from the Wheaton College Music Academy, she said.

"This is a really important program for us, especially because of the virtuosic musicianship required by this

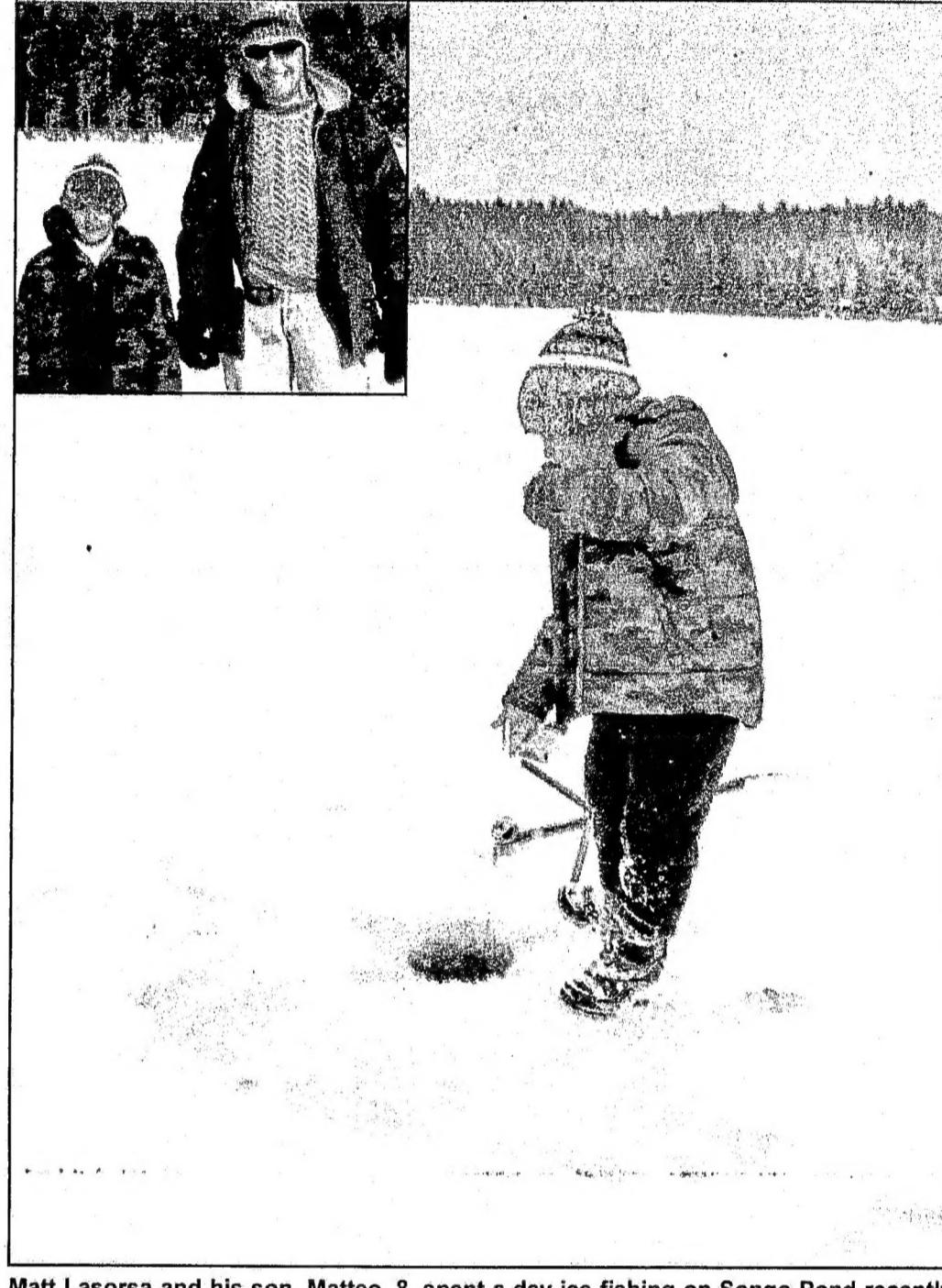
Gershwin song," Matolcsy said.

Among the artists involved are Debi Irons, a choreographer and artistic director; James McLaughlin, the music director of Gould Academy; Nikki Millonzi, a visual artist who was an elementary art teacher in Buckfield for many years; and Todd Brunel, a clarinet professor with Wheaton College Music Academy in Norton, Mass.

"Todd has been traveling back and forth from Boston to rehearse with us," Matolcsy said. "Not everyone knows this either, but Todd is also offering clarinet lessons to students, free of charge."

Matolcsy said students from Gould and Telstar "showed a huge interest in participating, whether it was helping with the fabrics and working on set design or dancing."

See ARTS, Page 3



Matt Lasorsa and his son, Matteo, 8, spent a day ice fishing on Songo Pond recently. Lasorsa, who is originally from Massachusetts, has lived in Florida for the past 15 years, and it was Matteo's first trip to Maine. Although he is new to ice fishing, Matteo is an experienced saltwater fisherman—and tournament champion—in his home state, where he catches grouper, snapper, and kingfish. "I beat all the adults in one tournament," he said. The Lasorsas caught four pickerel in about two hours, and Matteo had already decided he wanted to come back and fish again another day. A. Chapman

Telstar energy upgrade yields safety, comfort

By Amy Chapman

up at the beginning of the school year.

Prior to the upgrade, the school still had the original unit ventilators, or univent, that had been installed in each room when the building was constructed nearly 45 years ago.

They had outlived their usefulness, according to SAD 44 buildings and grounds supervisor Ron Deegan, and were overdue for replacement. For years, teachers had compensated for the inefficient ventilation system by opening classroom windows, even in the winter, to let in fresh air.

The project was begun last December, after district voters approved the renovation focused on indoor air quality and energy efficiency at the school, and wrapped

Replacing the old univents with more efficient units has provided automatic control of carbon dioxide levels and temperature in each room, while allowing for a reduction in the amount of fuel used by the two oil-burning boilers at the complex.

The contractor, Honeywell, also sprayed foam insulation in the walls and above the ceilings, eliminating drafty "cold spots" throughout the building. "There were places where we could see daylight through the cracks," said Deegan.

The renovation was designed to save electricity as

New plan finds Mt. Abram longtimers hopeful, concerned

By Scott Andrews
Special to the Citizen

As skiers settle into the New Year, a new model of ownership and operations is in the offing for the Mt. Abram ski area.

Rooted in a concept of community-based cooperative, the new plan has been in the works for several years, and its advocates say that details will be made public in a few weeks.

Meantime the mountain's incredibly loyal cadre of longtime skiers, many of whose personal and family ski histories date back to Mt. Abram's early years in the 1960s, are both apprehensive and hopeful.

The cooperative plan originates with Mountain Riders Alliance and its two founders, Dave Scanlan and Jamie Schectman, both of whom have experience in the business end of skiing on the west coast. Both have spent two seasons working at Mt. Abram. This year they're in the top management, with Scanlan serving as general manager and Schectman as marketing director.

At present, Scanlan and Schectman are running

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well as oil, with the installation of new, more efficient motors on the boilers' circulation system and lighting upgrades throughout the school.

"We installed motion sensors in the classrooms so the lights turn off automatically when the rooms are unoccupied," said Hale.

In the kitchen, hot water is now heated by propane instead of electricity, and new motors on the refrigeration units ensure they are running at peak efficiency. Alarm systems have been

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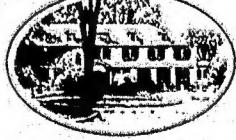
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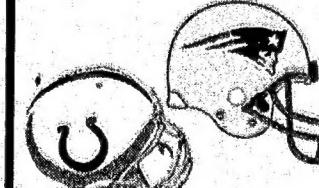
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Letters

CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN THANKS

To the Editor:

In the weeks and days before Christmas, Rotary Club of Bethel members were constantly amazed and heartened by the generosity of the individuals and businesses who gave to the annual Christmas for Children fund. From the collection kettle at the Bethel Hannaford market where an anonymous donor drops \$500 in the kettle every year, to the Gould Academy cookie walk which raised \$600, Sunday River Realty pooling Secret Santa money for the fund, and our largest donation from Rooster's Roadhouse owners, Steve and Gary, who donated \$2,500; the Rooster's Roadhouse waitress who held a party and collected gift cards for teenagers to be donated to the fund, and Sunday River Ski Resort's substantial donation, we were astounded time and again. The final amount raised was over \$15,000. There are so many to thank in our local and larger community - the many individuals and businesses who feel it is important to help families give their children a merry Christmas. Thank you to all. We are truly blessed to have such a giving and supportive community.

Rene McGrew, President
Rotary Club of Bethel

TELSTAR RELAYS THANKS

To the Editor:

What a great day at the Telstar Relays! With over 400 high school skiers registered for this Nordic ski race and scores of volunteers and onlookers, everyone appreciated having sun, no wind and temperatures in the double digits. This, along with the fun and excitement of the races, made for a wonderful day. Sarah Southam, the high school Nordic coach, did an outstanding job organizing the event. She and volunteers cleared brush from the trails before the season even started and did a lot of trimming in the days before the race after the course was groomed. Mike Cooper and helpers did an excellent job grooming and setting up the course - it looked like we could have been at the Olympics! I know Jeremy Nellis, Gould's Nordic coach, helped as well and I saw volunteers from seven years old to into their 70s involved. It is wonderful to be part of this community where so many are willing to go the extra mile for our kids. Thanks everyone for a wonderful day. I look forward to the Telstar Relays next year!

Nancy Babcock
Bethel

CHRISTMAS FOR FAMILIES 2013

To the Editor:

Every year we have an amazing bunch of people that help by donating their time, money and gifts to this project and every year we find that even as hard as it may be on you, the community, you find a way to help. Even people that are visiting our area want to do something to help. We do raffles, benefit Bingo and food sale at the Legion, United Bikers of Maine do bike runs and the ATV club. We would like to give a very special Thank you to ROOSTER'S ROADHOUSE, AMERICAN LEGION and MAINE STREET REALTY for their help and support over these many years and the hundreds of others that have helped make this happen each and every year for the past 34 years. Our elves are happy to do this and try to make others a better Christmas than they might have had. We do try to send warm clothes (hats, mittens, PJs, long johns, jackets and other clothes), blankets, boots (if we have them), reading, board games, Christmas items and toys (some large and some small) also we send things for the parents. We try to let them wrap by sending them paper, tape, tags and bows when we can.

This year we have helped 91 families - 240 children plus their parents.

Have a Happy New Year and we wish you all the best.
Christmas for Families Director Nina Wheeler

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Citizen welcomes letters to the editor. We hope our readers will regard the newspaper as a public forum for discussing any topic they believe to be of interest to the community.

Insofar as possible, we attempt to publish letters without alteration, but we do reserve the right to edit for length, libel, taste and readability. Letters should be limited to 300 words, but that limit will be waived when the situation warrants.

In situations where the letter writer has a political, economic, familial or other relationship that could be perceived as bearing on the topic addressed in the letter, we strongly suggest the writer make that relationship known in the text of the letter or after their signature.

When writing, please include your full name, signature, address and telephone number (so that we may verify authorship).

The deadline for letters to the editor is 4:30 p.m. Monday. Letters submitted after that deadline will be considered for publication when circumstances permit.

Send your letters to:
Editor, Bethel Citizen, PO Box 109, Bethel, ME 04217-0109. Fax: 824-2426. E-mail: news@bethelcitizen.com.

The Bethel Citizen

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SAVING HEALTHCARE

To The Editor:

I was very discouraged when I read the Guest Column in the Sun Journal on Dec. 30 by Republicans Rep. Michael Thibodeau and Senator Garrett Mason: "Fed can't be trusted with Medical expansion."

I thought: "They just don't want people to have healthcare." I feel for those that have no insurance and become gravely ill. What of the children that become ill?

I thought of what my friend Betsey Foster said in her column in November: "After nine years of paying for my own health insurance, I signed up for what is generally being called Obama-care. I was able to use the website to do so. Although it takes awhile to go through the numerous steps, it went smoothly. It costs much less than I am now paying and the coverage is much better, I don't understand what everyone is fussing about."

There is hope! S.J. Jan. 1, a guest column by Democrats Sen. Margaret Craven and Sen. John Patrick: "Resolving to be healthier, better insured." They explain the advantages of accepting the federal government's offer to expand health insurance as many other states are now doing.

Their take on the Republican article: "Instead of looking for solutions to our state's healthcare crisis, they have chosen to skew the facts in favor of tea party talk show rhetoric."

The facts as presented by Craven and Patrick look good for all of Maine.

"The truth is, this deal is not about whether or not you like the ACA. It's certainly not about the Healthcare.gov website. However, it is about ensuring 70,000 of our neighbors have access to the care they need, creating health care jobs and saving money."

Nancy Willard
Woodstock

Celladore

'Louis is coming'

I arose very early next a.m. and was breakfasting on my stool before the fire when at six-fifteen in rolled Louis with his helper, Keith. He spread out a canvas over what open space there was in the shed and covered it with paint pails, little trunk with brushes hanging on racks, buckets and rags. In he came,

"B.B. not home yet?" "Too early for him," said I, but he said that you knew exactly what to do and for you to just go ahead and start wherever you wanted to."

They roamed over the house. As it was Louis's first day, B.B. came early to be available to run errands if needed. I sat leisurely munching my toast and thinking how pleasant it would be with no carpenters here and it would not be necessary to be rushing all the time to keep ahead of them.

Back came Louis. "Keith is scrubbing the walls in the big bedroom. After he finishes he can help me tape the seams on the plasterboard ceilings and patch plaster on the walls. I see they didn't put a new ceiling in the pantry cupboard. Now, Melly, if you want to help you can just get all this stuff out of there so I can get in to work."

"I'll do it at once," said I meekly and thought that my week or so off from hard work was not starting very auspiciously. I got the stepladder and had at it. Up and down, up and down, taking out canning jars, lamp chimneys, vases, packing them into boxes and to the barn. Louis flitted by occasionally, was out into his truck and off and back it seemed a dozen times. He paused to remind me.

"Now, Melly, when you get that done, if you want to scrub up all your bathroom fixtures and get rid of all that crap, I can get in there to paint the walls, ceiling, and floor." Later he called me. "Can you come upstairs a minute?" I dared not refuse. He had thrown open the door to the big storage closet under the eaves. "I never touch anything in any woman's closet, but this place doesn't smell right to me." "Everything still smells," I answered.

"But this smell is different," said Louis. The closet was filled with household linens, my sewing supplies, knitting yarn, upholstery material. I had been gradually emptying shelves as I had had time to get things laundered but hadn't done more than half of it. "Dig out that stuff on the floor next to the bathroom," said Louis.

I so did, and Louis was right; the smell was different and with good reason. The fire had seeped in under that floor, smoldered away and smothered out; stopped by some eiderdown puffs I had saved to someday recover for my nieces. Also there was a pile of green velvet portieres, once Miss Fan's, that we had kept to loan out for costumes for the nativity pageant.

"Now, I don't want to rush you," said Louis, "but as soon as you can get to it, if you'll just clear all this stuff out of here, then we can tear out this mess and put in new walls and floorboards and get this painted and clean again."

A gentle yoo-hoo floated up the stairs and "Company!" boomed B.B.

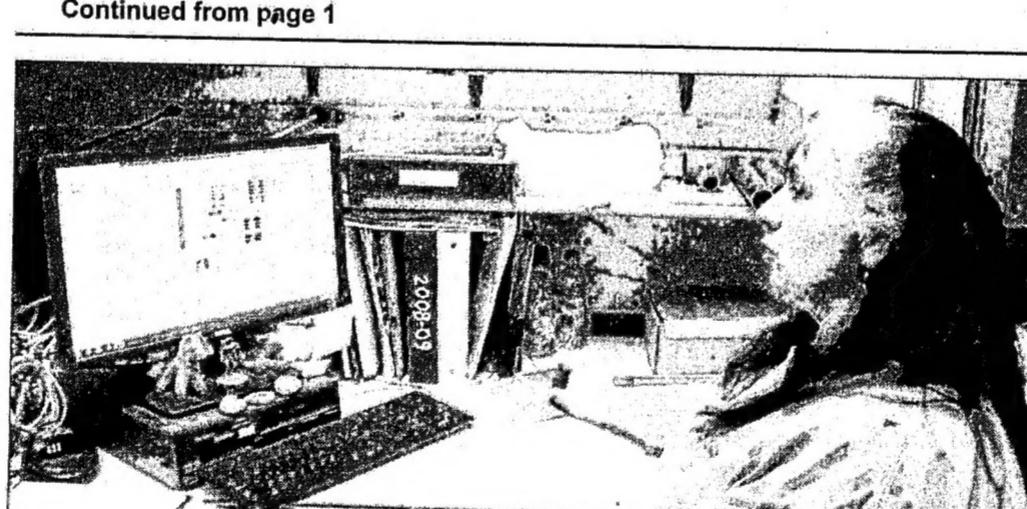
"Come up," said I. Betty A. and her mother appeared. Betty, who studied art with me, who helped me do the Mollyockett Day art show, who saw the good in each person, who always had a cheery word for the discouraged, Betty the beautiful in body and spirit and now living on borrowed time. "Hi, Louis," she greeted him. "How nice you are helping here, and aren't you making great progress!" With not one clean or finished room in the entire house, it did not seem like great progress to me but I did not say so. Their visit over, off they went with armloads of smoky linens to wash for me.

"Some gal," said Louis. "She puts me to shame," said I. "Don't forget the closet," said Louis.

"I'll do it just as soon as I finish the pantry slide," I promised and went back to that project. I had climbed up and down the stepladder how many times, with things to pack, to answer the phone, to answer Louis. B.B. helped me finish.

ENERGY

Continued from page 1



With new remote management software, Telstar lead custodian Arlynn Hale can monitor and control the temperature and carbon dioxide levels in every room of the building from her laptop.

A. Chapman

installed on the refrigerators and freezers to prevent loss.

"Arlynn and I would both receive a phone message immediately if the refrigerators or freezers went off, the pumps in the boiler room went down, or the flame went out in the boiler," said Deegan.

Another component of the upgrade was the addition of remote management software that enables both Deegan and Hale to monitor and control the temperature in every room of the complex from anywhere, using laptop computers.

The software allows them to set up the calendar at the beginning of the school year, entering the known dates and times when the school would be unoccupied, such as nights, weekends, and vacation periods, but also permits them to update the schedule at any time.

"They didn't have to shut down the building," he said, noting that the work was done during nights, weekends, and school vacations.

Although Deegan won't know the extent of the sav-

ings from the upgrade until the end of the heating season, he said Honeywell's contract was performance-based and guarantees a reduction in energy usage.

The district will also be receiving rebates from Efficiency Maine for the purchase of energy-efficient motors and lights as part of the project.

Anecdotal evidence suggests benefits are being seen from the improvement in air quality as well. Hale said staff members who have routinely suffered from respiratory illnesses as soon as the heating season begins have instead remained healthy this year.

What's the next step in improving energy efficiency? Deegan said the SAD 44 is looking into biomass technology, hoping to eventually replace fuel oil with either wood chips or pellets.

"Our ultimate goal is to replace 90 percent of the district's oil usage," he said.

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: Work on the outside of Woodstock's new fire station was completed, and the interior was expected to be done before the March Town Meeting.

Scott Sumner was appointed director of the Bethel Public Works Department to succeed Robert Pilgrim.

Deaths: Charles Clement Downton Reade, Winter Moon White-Rainey.

Deaths: Kevin J. McCarron, David J. Stevens, Lois P. O'Leary, Adelia A. Waterhouse, Marlyn D. Mills.

20 years ago: Danny Kenanagh was the winner of a \$4,000 Arctic Cat Jag snow machine in a C.N. Brown/Marlboro cigarette promotion.

The Sports Outlet Ski Shop was offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of thieves who made off with \$5,000 worth of merchandise.

Deaths: Elsie Pearl Hewey, Gertrude M. Thornton, Theo A. McKeen.

30 years ago: Sunday River Inn was hosting 30 Elderhostel participants who were studying cross-country skiing, astronomy and botany.

The Bethel Ambulance Service honored retiring members John Greenleaf, Florence Merrill, Donald Morin, Esther Sweetser, Marcus Moore, and Arnol and Mary Brown.

Birth: Molly Hutchins Lea.

Deaths: Mrs. Mary M. Hennessey, Hazen S. Nile.

40 years ago: Miss Helen Varner was a patient at Stephens Memorial Hospital after fracturing her arm in a fall on upper Main Street.

Akers Ski, Inc. of Andover was chosen to be included in a new Random House book, "The Catalogue of American Catalogues."

Deaths: Sandra M. Berryment, Earle S. Enman.

50 years ago: Robert G. Clemons of Chapman Street was transferred to Boston with the Long Lines Dept. of the American Tel. & Tel. Co. He and his family planned to move to Framingham.

A fire caused by overheated coils in a baking oven partially destroyed the drying room of the Ekco Tebbets Co. Inc., Locke's Mills.

Deaths: Edgar Eulango Flint, Walter W. Bailey, Sr., Charles H. Reed, Mrs. Eva Fox, Mrs. Etta Billings.

60 years ago: James Laster, Albany, retired regular army man, announced he would seek nomination as one of the county commissioners in the Republican primaries.

The Bethel Evening Extension met at the home of Mrs. Abbie Brown. Mrs. Fillmore Clough instructed the group in making billfolds.

Deaths: Mrs. Harry Brown.

70 years ago: The Mark Swan place at the foot of Mill Hill was razed by a crew of Bethel Inn employees.

There was a snowfall of about 20 inches in a two day storm.

The Bethel Parent-Teacher Association announced an enrollment of 115 members.

80 years ago: A dry pipe sprinkler system was installed at the William Birmingham Gymnasium. James Walker of Providence, R.I. was in charge of the work for the Grinnell Co.

Farmers at Milton were harvesting ice from a pond created by beavers.

Deaths: Fred Robert York, Fred Cash, Mrs. Ellen L. Damon.

90 years ago: The Locke Mountain House and Farm, for thirty years a favorite resort for summer boarders, was offered for sale.

State highway "S" Gray to Bethel, running through Poland, Mechanic Falls, Oxford, Norway, Paris, Woodstock and Bethel, was one decision given out by the state highway commission.

Deaths: Alfred M. True, Grace A. Kendall, Mrs. George J. Hagood.

100 years ago: Local telephone lines were constructed from the Greenwood and Rumford lines to Bethel and Mason. People in the village and outside were putting in instruments.

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The Bethel Citizen

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ARTS

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Artistic Director Debi Irons, far right, works through new choreography for a multi-media project inspired by Gershwin that will be presented by the Mahoosuc Arts Council January 14. James McLaughlin, Music Dir. at Gould Academy, far left, and Clarinet Professor Todd Brunel of Boston in the foreground will be accompanying Irons' company Art Moves in performances that will also integrate the work of visual artist Nikki Milonzi and students from the region. The artists met for the first time in December to rehearse at the Bingham Auditorium at Gould Academy. Submitted photo

"This all started because of a conversation between Debi and me," Matolcsy said. "She used to be a performer with the Mahoosuc Arts Council, but not when I was involved with the group. We've known each other for years and have always thought that we should try to organize something together. One day, we told each other, 'Let's just do it.'"

The fabrics used in the featured piece will be dyed by

students under the direction of a teaching artist who will teach a variety of techniques using only indigo. Images of the fabric will be used as projections on the dancers and some of the fabric will be used to build a mobile as part of the set that will eventually become an art installation at Telstar Regional Middle and High Schools.

In addition, Irons will perform several pieces of her repertoire with danc-

ers from her company Art Moves.

The program is directed by Irons and will be performed at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Gould Academy. Tickets are \$15; free for students under the age of 18. There will be additional performances at Telstar Regional Middle/High School during the school day, Matolcsy said.

For more information, call the Mahoosuc Arts Council at 824-3575.

MT. ABRAM

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the mountain, which is still owned by Rob Lalley and Matt Hancock.

Scanlan and Schectman believe that the present profit-oriented "corporate model" for small ski areas should be superseded by a community-based paradigm that will be directed by various stakeholders who are usually not represented at the present time under the present regime.

They may be on to something. Mt. Abram has a passionate group of long-time skiers - including a number of personal friends - but has suffered a rather checkered financial history, especially over the past 25 years.

Schectman emphasizes that the co-op will technically be a for-profit entity, but that whatever profits accrue will be re-invested in the mountain.

Says Schectman: "Instead of private ownership, the ski area operations will be owned by a community of skiers that will make decisions based on what is best for future generations."

To date, Scanlan and Schectman have held a number of informational meetings with stakeholders, describing their vision in very general terms. They promise that details of the cooperative will be presented "early in 2014."

Shortly after Christmas, I visited Mt. Abram to ski and talk with some of the longtime skiers. I wanted to learn their feelings about the proposed regime change.

I spoke with three people who have been skiing the mountain for decades. All three have been season pass holders and/or



Laurie Fitch

Scott Andrews

miffed to maintaining this place as a family ski area," Fitch commented.

She's also hopeful of MRA's plans to turn the mountain into a cooperative. "It's a very community-focused concept and it gives Mt. Abram skiers a chance to have a say in how the mountain operates," Fitch added. "I think there are a lot of people in Maine who would be interested in owning a piece of Mt. Abram."

Fitch acknowledged that much confusion surrounds the idea so far. "The concept of the cooperative is new to a lot of people, and may be hard to understand," she admitted.

Rick Luthe, of Portland, has been skiing Mt. Abram since childhood. In the 1960s, his parents - Merrill and Jane - built Chalet Luthe, a picturesquely red A-frame which holds the honor of being the first vacation home at the base of the mountain. Rich still spends his winters at Chalet Luthe, which is stuffed with memorabilia of Mt. Abram and its five-plus decades of skiing history.

Luthe is optimistic about the new management team. "I like their attention to detail," he offered, citing recent improvements to snowmaking as a prime example.

Luthe eagerly awaits the formal announcement of the cooperative, but for the moment he hopes for the best.

"I'm not sure I understand what they want to do," conceded Luthe. "But if it works, I'm all for it. I'm in favor of anything that keeps our mountain open."

DEBATE

Continued from page 1

But Brian Mills and Selectman Keith Farrington said that was misleading. Mills said without Newry, SAD 44 would get more state aid funds, although it was uncertain if that would make up the difference. Farrington added that Hudspeth's scenario was too simplified.

However, Andover Withdrawal Committee member Paula Lee said the panel had met with an official from the Maine Department of Education, who told them the cost of losing Newry would be at least as much as the cost of Andover operating its own school system.

Farrington and Mills had other concerns.

Farrington said he had calculated Andover taxes would rise an estimated 42 percent to pay for an independent Andover school system. He acknowledged arguments by withdrawal supporters that savings could be found, but he said the impact of such efforts would be minimal.

"If we cut costs by 20 percent, we'll still have a 34 percent tax increase," said Farrington, a former SAD 44 school director. And if spending in Andover municipal departments was cut by 20 percent, he said, it would only reduce the tax increase by 1 percent.

"I want AES to stay open. My opinion is the best way is to stay in SAD 44," he said.

Those at the meeting also discussed scenarios if parents wanted to send their elementary students to the Crescent Park Elementary School in Bethel or another elementary school in the region. Committee members said parents would likely be able to send students elsewhere under a superintendents' agreement, which allows students in neighboring districts to cross borders to attend school without charge.

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heat and maintenance of the building. "We might sit down and negotiate with them a percentage amount on what our assessment is extra each year, be it 20, 30, 40 percent," he said.

He also said Andover pays about 6 percent of the SAD 44 budget (plus another 1.73 percent extra to keep the school open) but has more than 12 percent of the students, giving the town a financially good deal.

"We're much better off not withdrawing and staying the course on what we've been doing," he said.

But Pete Coolidge said an increase in taxes to support Andover education was worth it.

Noting that a tax bill of \$1,000 would increase to \$1,400, Coolidge said, "That's a cup of coffee a day. For a cup of coffee a day I guess I can support that."

Dick Morton supported withdrawal, saying he pays property taxes in four towns, some small and some large.

"Small towns do the best job of spending their money. That's what I'm basing my vote on," he said.

Joyce Morgan, who taught at Andover High School before it closed and was on the committee that oversaw the creation of SAD 44 in the 1960s, said the decision to form the district was a good one. But, she said, a good education is worth the extra cost. "I strongly recommend that you withdraw from the district and keep your own wonderful elementary school," she said to applause.

For photos of Saturday's hearing, see Page 10.

But, said Pew, "We could sit down and talk about responsibilities," such as for

the sending system or parents.

Those at the meeting also

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districts to cross borders to

attend school without charge.

She praised the efforts of the town's Withdrawal Committee. "It was inspiring to work with the Withdrawal Committee members, Paula Lee, David Percival, Tim Akers and unofficial members Steve Hudspeth, David Belanger, Leon Akers, Dan Wells, plus all the many citizens who helped along the way. So, it is obviously hard in any situation when a majority rules a majority."

Added Merrow, "Some people came out saying they care about their taxes, so it appears we will need to put more chairs up at the annual Town Meeting, which is Saturday, March 15."

On the Withdrawal Com-

mittee's Facebook page Tues-

day night, some withdraw-

al supporters mulled the po-

tential for mounting another

withdrawal effort because

the vote was so close.

A draft budget (estimate of

expenditures) for an indepen-

dent Andover school system that was prepared by the Andover Withdrawal Committee. "It was inspiring to work with the Withdrawal Committee members, Paula Lee, David Percival, Tim Akers and unofficial members Steve Hudspeth, David Belanger, Leon Akers, Dan Wells, plus all the many citizens who helped along the way. So, it is obviously hard in any situation when a majority rules a majority."

Another \$235,400 would have been needed for startup costs for the new school system.

As a member of SAD 44, Andover this year is paying \$634,601 (including \$140,000 to keep the town's element-

ary school open for the year).

Murphy comment

SAD 44 Sup't. Dave Murphy said Wednesday, "The process that we have all been going through for the past year and a half has been an interesting and challenging one.

I think it is probably safe to

say that people on both sides of the withdrawal issue have

learned a lot through this ef-

fort.

"It will now be important to see if we can blend that knowledge and determine if there might be some other options that might be able to be considered for the future. Yesterday's vote showed a continued and impressive commitment on the part of Andover residents to maintain their community school. The process that the Andover group went through also helped to determine what the projected cost of running their own school system would be.

"(Board Chair Lainey) Cross and I have added a discussion item to Monday night's School Board meeting to try to determine other steps that might be able to be taken to allow this conversation to move forward in a positive way, building on some of the knowledge that has been gained throughout this process."

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Bethel

By NANCY BROWN

The big news this week is definitely the weather: record cold temperatures, snow, rain, and ice. A fast-moving storm on Dec. 29 left 12 inches of snow in about six hours, with another four inches later in the week. The real news, though, is the cold. Meteorologists, who keep records of these things, say that we are experiencing the coldest temperatures in two decades. I know that the thermometer in my dog's pen has hit at least 20 below zero this week. Not as cold as Minnesota, but cold enough for me and the dog. As well as people, dogs and other pets need extra protection in severe cold. They should not stay out outside in extreme

cold. My dog refuses to wear boots in the snow, but she will let me do the necessary wiping of snow and ice from her paws. You can buy ointment at the vet's office that will protect their paws from the ice, snow, and ice melt. If you can, buy an ice melt that is environmentally friendly and pet friendly. Right now, most stores have sold out of any kind of ice melt, including rock salt. Sand is available for Bethel residents at the highway department shed near the airport.

Winter is the time we need to keep a protective eye on our neighbors. To protect yourself, carry your cell phone when you're outside shoveling snow, skiing, snowshoeing, or walking the dog.

The snow has given us perfect conditions down here in the valley for cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. Did you

know that you can buy snow sleds at Brooks Bros. on Main Street? They have several styles and many colors.

There is another SAD 44 Ski Free Day on Sunday, Jan. 26, at Sunday River. With an ID that says you live in SAD 44, you get a free lift ticket, free rentals, free training in an adult learn to ski/ride clinic (advance registration required), and 50 percent off on food and beverages.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brown-nancy1950@gmail.com, or call me at 824-2483.

East Bethel

By CHERRI CROCKETT



Hello neighbors, I hope you're all well and enjoying the warmer temperatures this week. It's

Sunday evening and I'm still smiling from the day full of outdoor activity I enjoyed. It has been an absolutely gorgeous day, with temperatures in the double digits above zero for the first time in a week. Andy and I enjoyed some time with Wanda and the girls, and some close family friends out at their camp sledding down the road. It was definitely not a run for the weak of heart. We all took turns sledding, while someone else drove the truck down to meet us, as it's a pretty lengthy run. Andy enjoyed getting us going as fast as he could and then planting us in the snow.

Even though I was enjoying spending time with our family, I had made afternoon plans to break some snowshoeing trails around home. Four of my girlfriends came out to help me and we climbed the mountain behind Countryside Acres, met Babe's road and ventured down onto the intervals. It was a great three-mile loop.

I'm not ever sure if Babe and Arlene are looking out their windows, but as I pass by I offer up a wave in hopes that they see me and know that I appreciate their generosity.

I'm so grateful to Babe for giving me permission to roam around on her land. It's been a great addition to the already numerous trails I've been able to make. I'm also very grateful to Arlene, as she allows me and my dogs to trek around her field and pack a trail. It may also benefit her, as I believe I saw her out enjoying some of the trail that the dogs and I broke. I'm happy we're able to help one another out.

Now, as you know, Andy and I hosted a sledding party on Hastings hill last week. We had a really good time, with Wanda, the girls, Kellie, Robert and Lilly Crockett, Gunner, Deirdre and Orion Fournier and Morgan Zetts all joining us. We had both trails going for awhile. What a hoot, not to mention making some great memories. We could hear Amos on the snowmobile pulling the other girls around the yard.

Amos and Carrie, you are always invited to come join us. Consider this your official invite.

Later in the week, I got a call from Sonny Hastings, curious to know where Hastings hill was. He thought he missed something. He didn't realize that people still used that hill to sled down. He mentioned that when he was young the hill was bare. He told me they would go sliding down through just about



CAT LEFT BEHIND NEEDS A HOME—The late Kay McMillin spent many hours each week volunteering at the Bethel Animal Hospital, where she soothed pets and people alike. When she passed away a year ago she left behind her cat, May. Since then May has lived at the animal hospital. "We promised Kay we would keep her or find a home for her," said technician Jeanne Boelsma. Boelsma said the staff feels that May, 10, needs a true home and a lap in which to sit. While she loves people, she needs to live in a home without other cats or dogs. Anyone interested in adopting May is asked to call BAH at 824-2212. *A. Aloisio*

Locke's Mills

By BETSEY FOSTER

Weather. Again? Quite the winter we've had so far. The National Weather Service says we haven't seen the scope and severity of cold air in at least 20 years.

Weather scientists blame the frigid temperatures and howling winds on a polar vortex. Polar vortexes occur seasonally at the North Pole and resemble hurricanes.

Fast-moving winds build up around a calm center and trap the air in the Arctic. When the polar vortex weakens and splits apart, that frigid air is pushed south and into our backyards. Those same scientists have suggested that warming temperatures in the Arctic may be responsible for the weakening of the polar vortex. When the vortex weakens, it's more likely to break apart and become a factor in our winter weather.

Believe it or not, those -25 degree temps with strong winds may be due to global warming. Who would have thought?

The ice fishing communities are returning to the ponds. Last Sunday was a rare sunny, calm, mid-twenties day around here, and the ice was covered with

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Gallant announces re-election bid

By Peter McGuire, Sun Media Wire

Oxford County Sheriff Wayne Gallant announced Friday his bid for re-election to a third four-year term as Oxford County's top cop.

Although the only candidate so far to register with the state's election ethics commission, Michael Parshall, a Monmouth police officer from Upton, announced his intention to challenge Gallant for the position earlier this year.

Gallant, 64, of Rumford has served in the office for nearly eight years, since his election in 2006. If re-elected, he said he hopes to continue growing the department and making it more visible in the county.

"We've seen a lot of good changes, and I hope to continue going on the track and trend we're on," Gallant said.

Among the accomplishments of his second term, Gallant mentioned expanding patrol coverage into underserved parts of the county, securing a contract for law enforcement coverage in Bethel and bolstering the department's criminal investigations division with four detectives authorized to conduct statewide investigations.

An Army veteran, Gallant has worked in law enforcement for almost 40 years. He served on the Rumford Police Department for 25 years. Shortly before his election to sheriff in 2006 he left Rumford PD to become chief of police in Wilton.

During the 2006 election Gallant defeated challenger Chris Wainwright, who currently serves as a captain with the Oxford County Sheriff's Office, by more than 2,000 votes. He ran unopposed in the 2010 elections.

Gallant filed as a Democrat with the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices on Dec. 27. He said he will soon begin circulating petitions to qualify for the June primaries.

On Friday, Michael Parshall said he intended to file with the ethics commission as a Republican and begin circulating his own petition within the next week.

Parshall said he was concerned with the growth of the Sheriff's Office's annual budget and disagreed with Gallant's decision to abandon a call-sharing agreement with the Maine State Police less than two months ago.

He believes the OCSO can be run more efficiently under his leadership and said becoming county sheriff has always been a goal of his.

A current Monmouth police officer, Parshall served with the Lewiston Police Department for 24 years before retiring in 2009.

Following his retirement from Lewiston Police Department, he served as a Oxford County deputy from 2009 to 2012. After retiring a second time, he became a truck driver for a short time before rejoining law enforcement, he said.

Candidates for the sheriff's office are required to submit petitions to the Maine Secretary of State's Office by March 17 in order to qualify for the June primary elections. The general election will be held in November.



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The Way I See It

By Sharon Bouchard

It hasn't actually been winter for very long but what a winter it has been! So far we have had heavy snowfall to break your back shoveling, sub-zero temperatures with wind chill factors that make your nostrils close up the minute you breath the frigid air, freezing rain and ice storms bring down power lines. With three more months of winter to go, I hate to even ask this, but just how bad is it going to get????

I have never been a fan of winter; in fact I hate it and always have, even as a little kid. I don't ski or go snowmobiling, I don't even make snow angels. I hate being cold and I'm not real fond of white knuckle driving on slippery roads. I absolutely detest having to clean my van and scrape the windows on a freezing morning before I can go to work. Shoveling may be good exercise, but so is swimming and I'd rather swim.

I'm convinced that I was born geographically mislocated. I think I was supposed to be born to parents who were residents of a tropical paradise. Unfortunately for me, God or the fates played a very nasty joke and I was born in Maine.

When I was a little girl, so very long ago, my mother would insist that I go outside and play in the snow. She felt it wasn't normal

for children to hate snow. "The fresh air is good for you," she would tell me. "Being warm is good for me too," I would whine.

I always lost those arguments and would be forced into two pairs of pants, two pairs of socks,

a heavy sweater, a snowsuit, boots that were not easy to put on, mittens, a hat that tied under my chin and a hood of the snowsuit. Once I was completely bundled up to the

south before the first snowflake, but that just isn't financially feasible. I'd hibernate and not go outside until the Mayflowers are in bloom, but that's even less feasible than being a snowbird.

So, like everyone else here in our Maine winter wonderland I will just have to cope as best I can.

Coping for me will include a lot of cursing and long johns that I probably won't take off until mud season!

The hardest part will be the white knuckle driving. I consider myself a good driver, but my minivan isn't the best vehicle on slippery roads. Then there are some other drivers; I hate to pick on the out-of-state skiers, but if the bindings fit, so be it. When I have someone pass me going like a bat out of you know where, ski rack on their roof and fishtailing as they cut in front of me, it makes me a bit nervous.

I grip the wheel a little tighter, my knuckles get a little whiter and I pray a lot until I get safely home.

Since I can't move to a warmer climate and there will be a lot more cold temperatures, snow and freezing rain I think the best thing I can do is to try to think positive. The way I see it spring is only three months away and until it gets here I think I will positively hate winter.

JAN

Thursday, January 9, 2014

The Bethel Citizen

Page 5

OCSD Patrol Log

Monday, Dec. 30

At 5:28 p.m. a Bethel caller reported a subject had threatened to damage some of his property. Deputy Peter Casey and Sgt. Matt Baker contacted the subject, who had returned home. No crimes were observed.

At 10:28 p.m. Deputy Peter Casey investigated a property damage crash that occurred on the Sunday River Road in Bethel, near the Newry town line.

Tuesday, Dec. 31

At 3:35 a.m. Deputy Dani Welch responded to a one-vehicle rollover on the Sunday River Road. Two occupants were transported by Rescue with minor injuries.

At 8:28 a.m. Deputy Andy Whitney responded to one of six property-damage car accidents on Mayville Road in Bethel. There were no injuries and the Department of Transportation was notified of the road conditions.

At 10:03 a.m. Deputy Dani Welch and Sgt. Tim Holand responded to Route 2 in Bethel for a three-car accident. One person was transported with minor injuries.

At 11:58 p.m. Deputy Peter Casey checked on a vehicle, which had its four-way flashers on, located on the Sunday River Road in Bethel, near the Newry town line. The vehicle had stopped to allow an intoxicated passenger to be sick after having too much to drink. No further assistance was required.

Wednesday, Jan.

An out-of-state resident contacted the Sheriff's Office to report that her adult son was intoxicated and stranded at a local restaurant in Bethel. Deputy Peter Casey investigated the incident and learned that the male was abandoned by his brother and friends. While attempting to locate the male, Deputy Casey learned that he was re-united with his brother. No further assistance was required.

At 8:26 p.m. after a vehicle stop was conducted on Railroad Street in Bethel, Deputy Peter Casey conducted a search of the operator and vehicle. Drugs and drug paraphernalia were located and seized. The case was pending further investigation.

Friday, Jan. 3

A Bethel resident wanted it logged he received a threat about his house being burned down while he was away. Deputy Dave Hodgson was assigned.

Saturday, Jan. 4

A report was received from a Main Street, Bethel caller concerned about individuals shooting guns to close to property. Deputy Dave Hodgson was assigned.

Sunday, Jan. 5

At 11:52 p.m. a caller reported a single-vehicle accident with a vehicle off the road about one mile from Sunday River Road toward Newry on Route 2. There were unknown injuries. He was unable to stop and slid about half a mile. Deputy Peter Casey responded.

Monday, Jan. 6

At 2:16 a.m. a caller said he was calling for another operator who flagged him down near Chandler Hill Road. The caller said the other vehicle was stopped on Route 26, there was no accident and the vehicle appeared to be on the road, but the operator asked him to call 911 because the road is too slippery to travel. Deputy Peter Casey was assigned.

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people trying their luck ice fishing. Only a few shacks were out. Most folks were sitting in lawn chairs on the snow with their faces to the sun.

I checked out some of the snowmobile tracks on Round Pond and, surprisingly, water had oozed up through some of the tracks. A word of caution – that ice is not uniformly thick.

Talked with Greenwood Town Manager Kim Sparks and she said so far the winter plowing and sanding budget is OK but, if these snow, rain,

and freezing rain storms continue, that may change. Jeez, and February is usually our snowiest month.

Time to pay the poach tax. Dog licenses are due before Jan. 31.

Head over to the town office Friday for the open house. This is a chance for people to see the new town office on the Gore Road be-

side the Legion Hall. There is lots of parking, everything is bright and new, and there will be refreshments. The open house is from 1 to 4 p.m. this Friday.

Amid the snow and ice, the first seed catalog has arrived. Giant red tomatoes, foot-long string beans, and a strange asparagus/broccoli combination. Oh, the things that occupy our winter-addled minds.

Please send news to 3taichif@gmail.com.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN

 Last Sunday was a welcome break from all the cold weather. We ventured out to do some grocery shopping. It seemed like spring! I hope everyone enjoyed the nice weather while it lasted because that was

probably it for a while. My brother, Steve McLain, had to do some serious plowing after the storm to clear out his driveway. He needed to clear up the snow so if we get melting and rain, it would be less slippery.

There doesn't seem to be much happening in Gilead. The school children got their holiday vacation extended with a storm last Thursday.

On New Year's Day we noticed a couple of Snow Buntings out by the bird feeder.

In the past few years, after a snow storm, there will be a couple of these birds that appear for a day or so. This time, they stayed around from Wednesday until Friday. They stayed close to each other and seemed to be finding something to eat. During the storm, the family of Cardinals was also out at the feeder, along with all the regular birds. The three of them appear almost every day. They show up early in the morning and just about dusk.

Last week we had a phone call from our nephew, Major Stephen McLain, III. He is quite busy with his job at the Pentagon. The family has settled in to their home in Virginia.

Town Office The Tax Collector at the Town Office has been busy collecting real estate taxes and the Town Clerk has licensed quite a few dogs for 2014. Dog licenses are due on Dec. 31, but State of Maine laws, relating to dog licensure, state that after Jan. 31, there will be a late fee of \$25 charged on each dog licensed after that date. Dog license fees are \$6.00 if the dog is spayed or neutered and \$11 if it is not. Anyone who did not get their dog licensed in December should get into the

town office before Jan. 31. The Town Clerk is in the office from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmai@hotmail.com.

Albany

By KATHY BENNETT

 Hello everyone out there. I have not forgotten to write my news, but I have been very busy going here, there and everywhere. Got home Sunday afternoon and found frozen water pipes. Still working on thawing them out.

I ask that people e-mail their holiday news to benettkathleen@gmail.com.

I was able to celebrate Christmas with all my boys and their families which included a quick trip to Bennington, N.H. for a visit with Danny and family.

Must get back to thawing pipes. Hope everyone has a very happy and prosperous new year.

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT

 Sympathy is extended to the families of Carrie Jackson and John (Jack) Bates.

The Woodstock Historical Society will meet on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Town Conference Room, weather permitting. Following the business meeting, the program will be on Oxford County's "Barnum," Ezra Stephens. The public is welcome to attend and learn about this very interesting character from the late 1800s.

Judith Grover Tent 17 DU-

School Lunch**SAD 44 Elementary School Lunches****Jan. 9 through Jan. 17**

Thursday: Shepherd's pie with wholegrain dinner roll or Sun Butter and jelly on wholegrain bread, green beans, carrot and cabbage slaw, fruit crisp.

Friday: School pizza or Sun Butter and fluff on wholegrain bread, celery sticks, apple, mixed fruit.

Monday: Teriyaki dippers with breadstick or Sun Butter and jelly on wholegrain bread, seasoned rice, steamed peas, chilled pears, orange wedges.

Tuesday: Homemade mac and cheese with ham slices or Sun Butter and jelly on wholegrain bread, wholegrain dinner roll, seasoned green beans, diced peaches, banana.

Wednesday: Meatball sub or Sun Butter and jelly on wholegrain bread, oven fries, tossed salad, baked beans, blueberries with yogurt:

Thursday: School pizza or Sun Butter and jelly on wholegrain bread, spinach salad, carrot slims, apple, mixed fruit.

Friday: Tacos with rice and salsa or Sun Butter and fluff on wholegrain bread, yogurt, corn, pickled beets, strawberry fruit cup.

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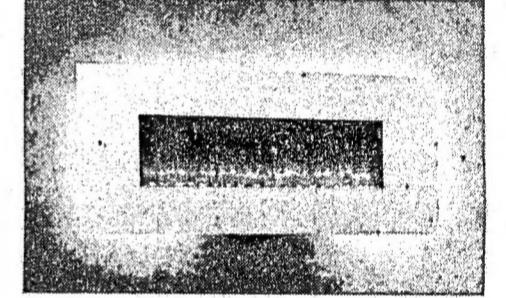
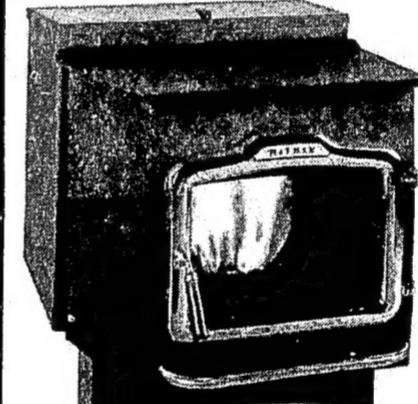
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**The
Bethel
Citizen**



A SMORGASBORD OF PRECIPITATION-The past week has brought almost every imaginable type of precipitation to the Bethel area. First it was snow, coupled with temperatures well below zero. That brought out snowmobilers willing to brave the icy air to enjoy riding the new snow, including this group that crossed the recreation bridge over the Androscoggin in Bethel on Saturday. But by Monday morning freezing rain bent small birch trees, like these on Vernon Street in Bethel. On Route 5 in Albany, the trees bent down all the way to the pavement, forcing drivers to go into the other lane to get around them. Later Monday heavy rain created a river down Main Street in Bethel as snowbanks prevented runoff. By Tuesday morning roads had refrozen as temperatures plummeted.

VCW will meet on Monday, Jan. 14 at Alice Hoyt's. Installation of officers will be held at this meeting.

The exercise class held at the library will be starting again on Jan. 9 (today) at 10 a.m. This class is led by Nancy Willard.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 in Mid-Week Service. Ladies Coffee Cup devotions are Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, will be Fellowship Sunday. There will be a luncheon following the morning service. The annual meeting is Monday, Jan. 20.

The Senior Citizens meeting was cancelled for the month of January.

There is no special program at the Whitman Memorial Library for the month of January.

We had a wonderful Christmas with our family. We had 15 for the tree and dinner at noon, then some of my sister's family and my sister joined us for exchange of gifts and supper, making it 22 in the afternoon. I love when we can all get together.

Guess we will have enough snow this winter. Stay warm.

Hanover

By MARIA HOLLOWAY

 Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and was able to spend time with family and friends.

Now - back to winter, and what a winter it is! Despite frigid temperatures, snow, and ice, Hanover is slowly coming alive after a quiet few weeks. Those of us who have ventured out are facing challenging driving conditions just about every day,

Andover

By JANE C. RICH

 First of all my apologies for any confusion caused by the error in my column in last week's Citizen regarding the time of the Public Hearing about the SAD 44 Withdrawal. However, I think people cared enough to find out the correct time as there was a very good turnout which was informative and constructive from my point of view. By the time you read this the election will have taken place and the people will have spoken. I just hope everyone exercised their right and privilege to vote so it is the total opinion of the people of Andover.

Gardner Roberts Library News
Library hours are Wednesdays, 9 to 4 and Saturdays, 9 to 12 noon. Be sure to stop in for Miss Peggy's hot donuts
If the school withdrawal vote is successful on Jan. 7,

there will be another referendum vote on Jan. 28 and the polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
The Snow Valley Sno-Goers snowmobile club will host a potluck and meeting this Saturday, Jan. 11 at their clubhouse off Route 5 in Andover. The supper will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a business meeting at 7 p.m. Bring a dish to share if you come for supper. People interested in trail conditions can check them out on Facebook at Andover trails.

If you're not a snowmobiler, you might be interested in the skating rink behind the Fire Station which is maintained by a number of local volunteers and is just one of our winter activities here. Don't forget the cross country trails at Akers Ski.

If you have not registered your dog for 2014, you should do so; however, since Dec. 31 has passed, you will be liable for a fine. There will be a Rabies clinic on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Fire Station. The fee for the Vet is \$15 and must be cash. Town Clerk Melinda Averill will be available to register dogs at that time.

The First Congregational Church invites you on Jan. 26 to the 10 a.m. worship service in the CEB followed by Coffee Fellowship and a video presentation by Rick Warren from his updated version of "The Purpose Driven Life" which is entitled, "What on Earth am I hear for." Further information can be obtained by calling 392-3761.

Mason

By RICHARD GROVER

 It's been an eventful week to this point where I am writing this. Today, Monday, Mona is the proud great-grandmother to a new baby girl. Harper came into the world at CMMC at about 8:45 a.m. to proud parents Carey and Neil Phelps. She weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and mea-

sures 22.5 inches long, so she will probably be very tall like her father! When Noah was asked what he thought of his new baby sister, he said, "Cool!"

Yesterday, Mona became the proud "mother" of a tiny new dog, Sassy. She is a Shi-Tzu/dachshund mix about 3 years old and came to us via the Responsible Pet Care shelter. Mona's niece and president of RPC, Shirley Boyce, brought Sassy up about noon on Sunday. She is a cute little thing and the answer to Mona's wish for a small dog to call her own as Shiloh is pretty much my dog! Sassy is a bit "standoffish" at present; we hope she gets acclimated and more of a "mummy's girl" soon. Shiloh is very interested in his new "sister" and follows her every move. Hopefully, that will wear off soon, as well.

In other news, my older brother Stanley fell off his porch roof Monday of last week and spent several days in the ICU at CMMC in Lewiston. Stan apparently landed on his right shoulder, broke the collar bone and several ribs on his right side.

Town Clerk Melinda Averill will be available to register dogs at that time.

My snow dances are obviously a failure. I need help. Charlotte is considering starting a dance group and will give lessons, call her for more details.

Call 533-2010 or e-mail backstjoe@gmail.com with your news.

Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM

 Just realized we need new calendars all around. We got two for work, but need more for home. That being said, the New Year has started off positively freezing. Our new wood stove just doesn't cut the mustard. It does NOT take the size wood that was promised and the house is COLD. That being said, it has been cold, cold, cold and we can't expect miracles, or can we. Even the birds seem cold. Gertie has stopped laying and I can only assume it is because of the

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Wishing you a Happy New Year with New Classes!

*New 6 week session of Ballroom & Latin Dance starts Tuesday, January 7

*Teen/Adult Beginner Ballet starts Wednesday, January 15, 7:30pm

*New session of Music & Movement (pre Ballet for 3 & 4 year olds) starts Thursday, 1/23 at 2pm

Contact Nan Brett for details

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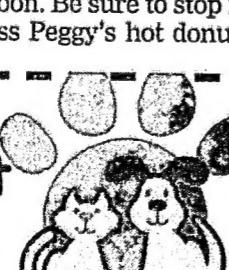
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thru March 15, 2014

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Thursday, January 9, 2014

The Bethel Citizen

Page 7

cold. In any case, no eggs for us. Otherwise the girls seem fine. They do not come out much, but that is because of the snow on the ground. Perhaps today might help. Of course, they say it will get cold again tonight, but for today it is to be mild. That is good.

It was some cold at work this weekend. Still, we did a huge amount of business. People complained, but it didn't keep them home. Not too many people hanging around, though. Too cold. At least the lakes and rivers are frozen, although I do not know what today's thaw will do. Rain is never good for ice.

Missed the first Monday events, sorry. I have my days confused. Today being Jan. 6, it is hard to fathom what is happening. Ski areas are in full swing, even today warming trend won't last long enough to make a difference in the skiing.

Saturday, Jan 11, there will be an open house for the Oxford County Mineral and Gem Association from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Franklin Grange in Bryant Pond. Club members will identify and appraise gems.

Saturday, there will be a full moon hike at 5 p.m. at Mt. Abram. Skis and boards will be transported to the top so hikers can ride or ski back down.

Tuesday, Jan. 14, there will be a multimedia visual arts performance at Gould Academy Bingham Auditorium at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15, free for students under the age of 18. FMI please call 890-6386.

Tuesday is also the application deadline for the Master Gardener Course. Course begins Jan. 29, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. FMI please call 1-800-287-1482.

That is all for this week. Stay warm!

Backyard Reflections

By Sara Wright

The Masked Bandit

I flipped on the outdoor flood light as I opened the door to a starry sky and frigid temperatures. Out of habit I glanced under the pines. My brain jammed, baffled by the sight of a creature staring me down with black beaded eyes. Did I imagine the white masked face that peered back at me for a few seconds before the animal vanished behind the conifers? What was that? I couldn't place the face, but it seemed vaguely familiar.

The next morning when I walked down one of the paths I saw small tracks in the snow around my

bird feeding place that I didn't recognize. I followed them to the bank that overlooks the brook still hoping to identify the animal that had made them by his tracking behavior, but the tracks disappeared into a cluster of deer hooves. All day I wondered about who I had seen. Wordlessly I called the animal back in my imagination, as I often do when wanting to make contact with a particular creature in order to identify it. It has been my life experience that animals often answer this kind of call.

That night I was ready; I waited by the door patiently until I thought I saw movement under the pines. When I flooded the area with light I was rewarded by the sight of the Virginia Opossum!

My first thought was that he looked like a large rat. I guess it was the long whiskered snout, or the naked round tail that brought rats to mind. The opossum had small round ears. He was almost two feet long (if you included that tail) and his coat was gray making the white markings on his face stand out against the snow like a mask. I startled him and we stared eye to eye before he began eating the sunflower seed I had left for the cardinals and the four flying squirrels at dusk.

I knew that these marsupials (North America's only marsupial) were traveling northward through New England but I had never expected to see one in this area, especially on such a cold night. Possums don't hibernate; they must forage all year for food and are slow movers and they are good swimmers and climbers. Opossum fur provides little insulation. Their ears, feet, and scaly round rat-like tails can get frostbitten easily. According to some sources food must be abundant within a small area to attract these animals. Although I feed my

birds a small amount of food each day, I would hardly call this feeding area "abundant" and I wondered how this possum found his way here. Possums originally lived in Central America and the southeastern United States, but have extended their range into Southern Maine in recent years.

Opossums have many unusual features. They have a prehensile tail, meaning that the animals can grab a tree limb, to hang upside down for brief periods, although it must be noted that they do not sleep upside down in this manner. They also use their tails to carry leaves, grass and moss to their dens to help insulate these areas from the cold. Possums will den anywhere that is dry, sheltered and safe including dens dug by other mammals in rock crevices, hollow stumps, wood-piles or under buildings.

To avoid predation possums will sometimes move to another den every few days. One radio tracking study indicated that one possum inhabited nineteen different dens in five months! Possums also have back feet with an opposable thumb like digit. They have 50 teeth, more than any other mammal. Opossums have remarkably robust immune systems and they are generally immune to the venom of rattlesnakes, cottonmouths, and other pit vipers. No one knows why.

When they are frightened opossums will go into a catatonic state from which they cannot be aroused. This is an

instinctual unconscious response. While unconscious the opossum opens its mouth, curls back its lips, and secretes a foul smelling substance from its anal gland to simulate the smell of death. It may also drool as if ill, or bare teeth to discourage whatever threatens it. This ability to play dead when confronted by a predator seems to be a very creative strategy to me, and the term "playing possum" developed from this unusual skill. Often the predator will walk away from such an apparently unsavory meal.

Most fascinating is that opossums like kangaroos bear live young but in order to survive the tiny babies (up to about thirteen) must find their way into their mother's pouch where each will attach itself to a nipple and continue to develop. The pouch is so waterproof that if mother gets wet, her young stay dry. Opossums have two litters a year and the breeding season begins in January. Now that the animals have found their way here, I wonder if possums will adapt to the North Country by breeding and raising young later in the season? The young are weaned between 70 and 125 days at which time they leave the pouch. By four months the young are dispersing, seeking new territories.

If you are fortunate it is possible to see a mother carrying her young on her back who will cling to her like glue, mostly by wrapping tails and back feet around her fur. Most sources seem to

agree that possums don't sell, sometimes chicken live more than three or four years, but I don't know if this is a statistic to predate on the scraps taken from captive opossums. In general captive animals die prematurely.

Possums are omnivores and eat a variety of plant and animal matter. They are nocturnal spending their days in dens or protected spots. Semi arboreal, they like to hide in trees. Foods include the carrion, insects of all kinds, fruit, nuts, grains, slugs (hurrah!), snails, snakes, and small mammals. They are particularly fond of road kill and often end up as road kill themselves.

Opossums have many predators. Dogs, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, bobcats, hawks and owls prey on them. Cars and hunting are responsible for many opossum deaths. One interesting piece of information is that these animals seldom carry rabies.

The word opossum is taken from an Algonquin word which means white dog. The possum does not appear often in northern Native mythologies probably because they were none; however in Central and South America opossum plays the important role of Fire Bringer. Not surprisingly, possum is also cast as a wily trickster figure who outwits his opponents by playing dead.

These days I flip the flood light on just before dark so that I can keep a keen eye on the fox trail. I leave tasty morsels to be seen as they make their living searching out food.

VISIT Hebron

Admission Open House

Monday, January 20

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



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PET OF THE WEEK:

Hi! I'm Felicity

I literally jump for joy when I see people enter our community room. If you bend down to pat me, watch out. I'll probably jump right on your shoulder. I'm hoping that one day the person whose should I'm on forgets I'm there and walks out the door with me. That's what I call a pick-up.



I'm three-years old. I am high energy and full of fun. I will fit in well with a lively group that wants to make me the center of attention.

Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County. The shelter has moved to a new location at 9 Swallow Road in Paris.

Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter Tuesday-Sunday 12-4 p.m. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website at www.rpc.petfinder.com.

For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, call Responsible Pet Care after noon at 743-8679.

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Mondays & Tuesdays 4 Large Ham Italians Lg. Chips, 2 Ltr. Soda, \$16.00	Hump Day Bucket of Spaghetti, 6 Meatballs, Garlic Bread \$9.00
Saturday & Sunday Pint of Baked Beans, Pint of Breau's Cole Slaw, 6 Hot Dogs, 6 Dinner Rolls \$10.00	
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Tickets: 5 and under free; 12 and under \$5; Adults 13 and over \$8. All shows are located in the Grand Summit Hotel Grand Ballroom at 7 pm unless otherwise noted. Advance tickets for shows are available at the Sunday River Welcome Center, Resort Hotels, or by calling 800.543.2754.

Sunday River



Author Amity Shlaes was the guest speaker at the Woodstock Republican Committee's December meeting. Front: Rick Bennett (chairman, Maine Republican Party), Amity Shlaes, Ruth Feeney (vice-chairwoman, Woodstock Republican Committee). Back: Karen Bennett, Seth Lipsky (Ms. Shlaes' husband). Submitted photo

Amity Shlaes at Woodstock Republicans

Bestselling author Amity Shlaes was the guest speaker at the Woodstock Republican Committee's December meeting. She spoke about her two most recent books, "The Forgotten Man" (2007) and "Coolidge" (2013), and the results of government attempts to control the economy. Most notably, she dispelled the popular view of Calvin Coolidge as an early 20th century Scrooge who cared little for the citizens of the United States. Instead, using historic references and personal stories, she filled in the human side of "Silent Cal" by showing his deep respect for the Constitution and the gravity and responsibilities of the office of President of the United States.

Through her extensive knowledge of President Coolidge, his life and times, Amity explained that he had an abiding distrust of large government that was a result of his childhood in New England. After assuming the Presidency following Warren G. Harding's death, Coolidge was elected with 54 percent of the vote winning 35 of the 48 states despite a rift in the Republican Party that resulted in a three-way race. Remarkably, at the end of Coolidge's administration the government was smaller than when he took office and, as a direct result of his policies, the United States entered a period of tremendous growth and optimism.

Ms. Shlaes is a dynamic speaker and following her talk, spent a considerable amount of time answering questions and speaking with members of the audience. Several people commented that, after listening to her, they were excited and thinking about what they might do to help expose the successful record of smaller government for all voters. The guests thought history's evidence would help support their efforts in shrinking government and working toward a return to prosperity.

The Woodstock Republican Committee is deeply grateful to Ms. Shlaes for her contribution of time and energy in making this event a success. Similar events are being planned for the future.

Ms. Shlaes was recently elected Chairman of the Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation. She was previously Director of the Four percent Growth Project at the George W. Bush Institute. Ms. Shlaes is also a regular contributor to Forbes Magazine, and Bloomberg News, and was previously an editor at the Wall Street Journal and columnist for the Financial Times. She has won numerous awards including the Hayek Prize for conservative books, the Frederic Bastiat Prize for political economics, the Deadline Club award for opinion writing, and the Front Page award for her Bloomberg columns.

Oxford County Democrats caucus training

The Oxford County Democrats will hold training for caucus conveners as part of their regular meeting on Sunday, Jan. 12 at the Crescent Park School in Bethel beginning at 2 p.m. Jon Hillier, Field Director for the Maine Democratic Party will conduct the convener training at 3 p.m. The Maine Democratic Party Caucus Day is Sunday, March 2 with meetings scheduled for individual towns at any time between 1 and 8 p.m. Many towns hold their meetings as part of regional events but also have the option of caucusing in their own town. The business of the caucus is to elect delegates and alternates to the 2014 State Convention on May 30 and 31 in Bangor, as well as to organize the party structure throughout the county. Legislative and county candidates, as well as those representing the top of the ticket campaigns, will be attending many of the meetings to gather nominating signatures and recruit volunteers.

The meeting is open to Democrats as well as others interested in electing Democrats, and will include a time to socialize and enjoy potluck refreshments. For further information contact County Chair Cathy Newell at 875-2116.

Mahoosuc Land Trust Changing Nature Series

The Mahoosuc Land Trust will kick off its 2014 speaker series on Changing Nature with a discussion of the Changing Nature of Lakes and Ponds, led by Jim Chandler. Jim has been involved in lake uses for many years, coordinating educational programs, overseeing watershed projects, and being involved in the eradication of milfoil from Maine ponds. He is Consulting Teacher in Science for the Auburn School Department and runs the Auburn Land Lab, a hands-on learning center. He is a resident of North Pond.

Jim will use his background in water quality issues to discuss the nature of lakes, water quality issues (and improvement; all the news is not bad!) in Maine, aquatic invasive plant prevention and control, the impact of climate change and opportunities to get involved. He will illustrate his program with hand-on experiences.

This program will take place at Gould Academy's McLaughlin Auditorium on Church Street in Bethel, beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 15. All community members are welcome. Upcoming speakers in the series include Rick Karg on The Changing Nature of Home Energy (Feb. 26) and Ryder Scott on The Changing Nature of Education for a Sustainable World (March 26).

For last minute cancellation questions or for more information on the full speaker series please call the Mahoosuc Land Trust office at 824-3806.

The Mahoosuc Land Trust is an accredited community land trust encouraging public interest in conservation in central Oxford County and eastern Coos County, N.H., supporting a balance of growth, and conservation and emphasizing sustainable and traditional land uses. For more information, visit www.mahoosuc.org or call 207-824-3806.

January worship services at First Universalist Church of West Paris

We welcome the New Year with a full and uplifting calendar of Sunday services. All are welcome to attend, 9 a.m. Refreshments following the services.

Jan. 5 - "Receiving with Joy, Giving with Care" led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson. We've all received some wacky presents over the years. What do those presents say about what the giver thinks of us? And how can we receive those gifts joyfully?

Jan. 12 - "Epiphany" led by The Reverend Sue Gabrielson, who is minister at the Sanford, Maine Unitarian Universalist Church.

Jan. 19 - "Why War? Why Peace?" led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson. This was the topic of last month's rich and informative public discussion at Fare Share Co-op. At this worship service, using ideas from that public discussion as a jumping off point, we'll explore the origins of war and our attitudes as Unitarian Universalists in times of war.

Jan. 26 - "Judgment Call" led by guest speaker Cindy Reedy who is a regular speaker at our church. She is a teacher and lifelong UU.

For more information about the church and worship services at the First Universalist Church of West Paris, Main Street, West Paris, please call Marta Clements, 674-2143. You can also visit <http://www.uua.org> to learn more about Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.

Free trees available

Residents of Maine can ring in the New Year with 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2014.

By becoming a part of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, new members will receive two Sargent crabapple, three American redbuds, two Washington hawthorns, three white flowering dogwoods.

"These beautiful trees will give your home in Maine lovely flowers with pink, yellow and white colors," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees are perfect for large and small spaces, and they will provide food and habitat for songbirds."

The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between Feb. 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members will also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, "Arbor Day," and "The Tree Book," which includes information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE FLOWERING TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, Neb., 68410, by Jan. 31, 2014. Maine residents can also join online at arborday.org/january.

Sports



BATTLING THE COLD-The annual Telstar Relays cross-country ski races took place Saturday in temperatures that started out well below zero. Some 400 racers from across the state trekked the 3-kilometer course, including the Rebels' Carla Boyle-Wight, shown here.

Daryn Slover/Sun Media Wire

High School Boys' J.V. Basketball

Winthrop 47, Telstar 34; Dec. 18 - Brandon Doherty was high scorer for Telstar with a total of 12 points, Avry Griffin contributed 10.

St. Dom's 43, Telstar 40; Dec. 28 - Telstar's Brandon Dougherty scored 13, Avry Griffin 9, Jeremiah Richardson 6 and Zach Stone and Tanner Wheeler 5 points each.

Dirigo 67, Telstar 52; Jan. 3 - Telstar's Brandon Dougherty played well, scoring 19 points, with Tanner Wheeler adding 14. Jeremiah Richardson, Zach Stone, Avry Griffin and Noah Rose all added points to make this the second highest scoring game for this season. Coach Ryan Kimball

Mountain Valley Rec Basketball

The Mountain Valley Rec Basketball League opened its season recently on Dec. 8. Due to weather conditions, as of Dec. 29, two rounds had been played. There are seven entries in this year's version of the MVRBL. 2013 Champion Ranor Mechanical, Inc. from Jay is back with a few new players. Ranor's team captain is Aaron St. Pierre, and they have local talent in Scot New, Craig Milledge and Kevin Gallant. They have also added Shawn Spadea and J.T. Taylor, and appear to be the team to beat again this year. 2013 runner-up LBI is back with a few new faces, but are again anchored by Brian and Eric Canwell, Jon Benjamin, Owen Jones and Joe Gaudreau. Bethel's team is captained by Ryan Kimball and features Wade Osgood and newcomer Dom Haines. Archie's is back with new players like Cody St. Germain and returning veterans Mike Holmquist and Brett Archibald. Neptune Contracting is another team, which has changed its name from The Thunderscats, and is led by Tom and Mike Leclerc. Jay is back in the league this year after a year's hiatus. Levi Armandi heads up that group which includes Zane Armandi and Jake Bessey. A seventh and formidable entry this year is Tommy Guns. Tim Turner spearheaded this new group and has solid talent that includes Trevis and Colby Knapp and Dave St. Germain. Three games per week are played Sundays starting at 10 a.m. throughout the year with some Wednesday evenings at the end of February and beginning of March. Most games are at Mountain Valley High School with an occasional use of Mountain Valley Middle School. Please follow the league on Facebook or at its website, www.mvrbl.webs.com. Further information about the league can be obtained by contacting league commissioner Eddie Paterson at epaterson2@roadrunner.com or 207-364-9352.

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Sun MEDIA GROUP

Andover weighs school withdrawal



Ahead of Tuesday's vote on school withdrawal, Andover held a final public hearing to debate the pros and cons of leaving SAD 44. Above, Selectman/Andover Withdrawal Committee member Susan Merrow goes over figures in a slide presentation as townspeople (left) listen.

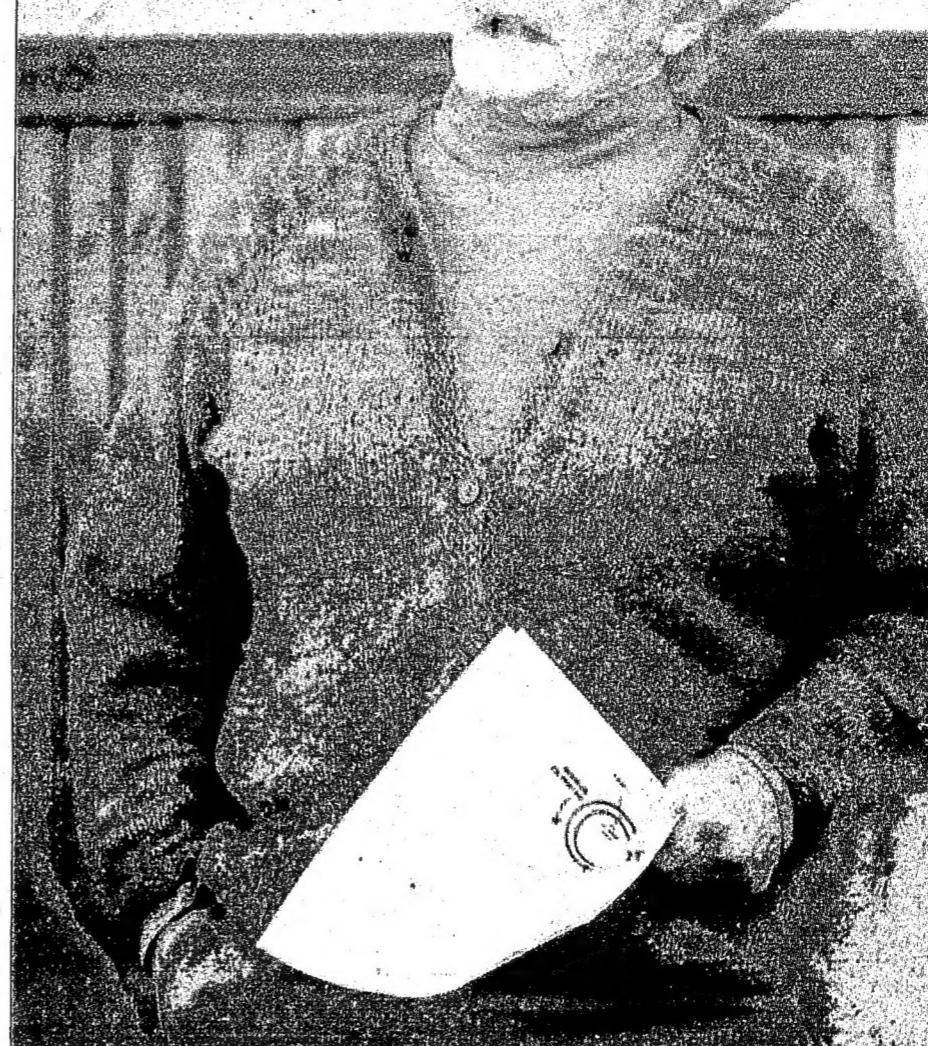
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After the presentation, people asked questions, aired their concerns and stated their opinions. Counterclockwise, from below, Jarrod Dumas asks a question; Pete Coolidge said that for the cost of "a cup of coffee a day" he would go along with higher taxes to support an independent Andover school system; Sharon Hutchins said she supported withdrawal to give Andover a choice in educating its kids; Selectman Keith Farrington said he felt the best way to keep the Andover Elementary School open was to remain in SAD 44 and pay extra money; Withdrawal Committee member Paula Lee answers a question; former Andover High School teacher Joyce Morgan urged residents to vote to withdraw.

(Photos: A. Aloisio)



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2014

Thursday, January 9, 2014

The Bethel Citizen

Page 11

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Exchange; Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours - No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Food Pantry; Nazarene Church, Park Street, Bethel. By appointment only (824-0369).

Friday, Jan. 10

Red Bull Frozen Rush; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday River Resort, 15 South Ridge Road, Newry. An off-road truck race like no other - eight 900-horsepower Pro4 trucks and their experienced professional drivers hit the slopes for a head-to-head race on the steep and unpredictable snowy terrain. FMI: www.redbull.com/frozenustrash.

Open House; 1 to 4 p.m., Greenwood Town Office, Gore Road, Locke's Mills.

Winter Dance; 6 to 8 p.m., 85 Lincoln Avenue, Rumford. Music by Joe "the Music Man" Sirois. Proceeds to benefit the Hope Association. Refreshments will be available.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Oxford Hills Honey Bee Club Meeting; 1 p.m., Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Speaker: Commercial bee keeper Tony Bachelder. Topic: Feeding bees in the winter and ordering nucs. The public is welcome. FMI: Kevin Farr at farrout@roadrunner.com.

Full Moon Hike; 5 p.m., Mt. Abram. Skis and boards will be transported to the top so hikers can ski or ride back down following the hike.

Snow Valley Sno-Goers Potluck/Meeting; Sno-Goers clubhouse off Route 5 in Andover. Potluck begins at 6 p.m. - please bring a dish to share. Business meeting begins at 7 p.m. Any one interested in area snowmobile events is invited to attend. FMI: 875-3800

Woodstock Historical Society Meeting; 6 p.m., Town Office Complex. Following the meeting, there will be a presentation on the life of Ezra Stephens, "Oxford County's Barnum." Stephens, a pioneer in the early days of the circus business, was also a Bryant Pond shopkeeper whose store was well known throughout the state for its curious and varied collection of items. The public is welcome to attend. FMI: 875-3800

Living on a Bad Name; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Bon Jovi tribute band - a guaranteed energetic show.

Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. \$5/Adults. Come have a great time.

Sunday, Jan. 12

Oxford County Dems Meeting/Training; Crescent Park School. Regular meeting at 2 p.m. Caucus convener training at 3 p.m.

Monday, Jan 13

Essentials of College Planning for adults 19 and over; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or <http://meoc.maine.edu>. Free and open to the public.

Hoopalula's Fire Gaia; 6:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. Hoopalula takes "hooping" to the next level by adding fire to their performances! Fire-dancing adds exceptional flair and provides sizzling entertainment that will leave you raving for more. This is a free event.

Fireworks; 7:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

Small Business Seminar; 9 to 11 a.m., White Mountains Community College, 2020 Riverside Avenue, Berlin, N.H. Topic: Legal Issues. Open to the public. FMI/registration: Joyce Presby (603-717-5457).

Rhapsody in Blue; 7 p.m., Bingham Auditorium, Gould Academy. \$15 per person, students under 18 free. FMI/tickets: www.mahoosucarts.org or 890-6386.

Rainforest Reptile Show; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. They're exotic crawlers, unusual 'slitherers' and fascinating creepers: They are the creatures of the rainforest. Educates and entertains people of all ages about reptiles, animals, and the importance of preserving their natural habitats. Tickets: Adults/\$8, Children 12 and under/\$5, under 5 free.

Master Gardener Volunteer Training Application Deadline; This 15-week course will begin Wednesday, Jan. 29, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Participants will learn the art and science of how plants grow and volunteer time to Main Harvest for Hunger and other garden-related community projects. FMI/Applications: Visit <http://umaine.edu/oxford/programs/> or call 1-800-287-1482.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

SeniorsPlus; 1 to 4 p.m., Norway Town Hall. SeniorsPlus representatives will be on hand to answer and questions or concerns you may have. Free and open to the public. FMI/appointments: 1-800-427-1241.

Changing Nature of Lakes and Ponds; 7 p.m., Gould Academy's McLaughlin Auditorium, Church Street, Bethel. The Mahoosuc Land Trust will kick off its 2014 speaker series on Changing Nature with a discussion led by Jim Chandler. Jim has been involved in lake uses for many years, coordinating educational programs, overseeing watershed projects, and being involved in the eradication of milfoil from Maine ponds.

Jan. 16, 23 and 30

Primitive Awareness; 6:30 p.m., Telstar High School. Join instructor Sonia Albins for a workshop on primitive awareness skills, where you'll learn to intuitively experience the world around you and rekindle your sense of connectedness. Cost: \$45. FMI/Registration: 824-2780 or www.sad44.maineadulted.org.

Thursday, Jan. 16

Ski the East Day; Mt. Abram. Guests wearing Ski the East gear will get a free lift ticket. Free demos from Worth skis and Launch snowboards will be available. There will be an après ski party with live music and giveaways in the Loose Boots Lounge.

Mad Science Hands-on Discovery Booth; 6 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. A fun, interactive and educational program that instills children with a clear understanding of what science is and how it affects their world. Tickets: Adults/\$8, Children 12 and under/\$5, under 5 free.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Snowshoe Trek; 9 to 10 a.m., Witt Swamp Preserve, off Pleasant Street in Norway. FMI/registration: 743-1562 ext. 6896.

Apres Ski Party; 3:30 p.m., Mt. Abram. Live music by Pat Foley and over \$3,000 in giveaways.

Illusionist Jason Bishop; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. Bishop is an international award-winning illusionist - the youngest person to win the Magician's Alliance of Eastern States Stage Award. A surprisingly funny, truly magical show. Tickets: Adults/\$8, Children 12 and under/\$5, under 5 free.

Dead Sessions; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. A live performance by one of the favorite Grateful Dead tribute bands of the Northeast.

Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. \$5/Adults. Come have a great time.

Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Tuesday, Jan. 21

Small Business Seminar; 9 to 11 a.m., White Mountains Community College, 2020 Riverside Avenue, Berlin, N.H. Topic: Financial issues. Open to the public. FMI/registration: Joyce Presby (603-717-5457).

Wednesday, Jan. 22

Mahoosuc Land Trust Book Club; 7 p.m., Land Trust office. The book for January is "My First Summer in Sierra," by John Muir. Light refreshments will be served. FMI: 824-3806.

Friday, Jan. 24

Early Childhood ACEs and Resiliency Summit; 8 a.m.-noon at Crosstone Conference Center at Mollyockett Motel, Route 26 in Woodstock. This free summit is highly advised for individuals working with others in a support, education, therapeutic, or employment capacity. Learn more about the Maine Resiliency Building Network at <http://maineaces.org/index.html>.

Saturday, Jan. 25

Family Fun Day; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Five Fields Farm, South Bridgton. Mushers Bowl Weekend, snowshoeing, sliding, snowman building, hot drinks, food and a campfire. FMI: 647-4352 or jon@lelt.org.

2nd Annual Cause for Laughter; Mt. Abram. A charity comedy event to raise money and awareness for children and families affected by Autism. Doors open at 6 p.m. with food available at Loose Boots Lounge. Show starts at 7 p.m.

Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. \$5/Adults. Come have a great time.

Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Sunday, Jan. 26

SAD 44 Ski Free Day; Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.

Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11 and 18

Women's Archery Club; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bryant Pond 4H Camp. Cost: \$45, materials included. Instructor: Ron Fournier. An introduction to archery with plenty of time to shoot, learn the basics and have fun. FMI/Registration: 824-2780 or www.sad44.maineadulted.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 28

Small Business Seminar; 9 to 11 a.m., White Mountains Community College, 2020 Riverside Avenue, Berlin, N.H. Topic: Marketing informa-

tion about branding and the need for marketing materials. Open to the public. FMI/registration: Joyce Presby (603-717-5457).

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Community Supper; (no charge) 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Bethel Alliance Church (across from Telstar parking lot). Call 207-824-2289 for more information.

Saturday, Feb. 1

Maine Telemark Festival; Mt. Abram. Clinics, lessons, giveaways, and live music all day.

Sunday, Feb. 2

Ski for Mason's Mission; Mt. Abram. Proceeds of lift ticket sales will go to Mason, a toddler with severe health challenges who requires treatments not covered by insurance. FMI: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Masons-Mission/343438545762098>.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Small Business Seminar; 9 to 11 a.m., White Mountains Community College, 2020 Riverside Avenue, Berlin, N.H. Topic: Business planning. Open to the public. FMI/registration: Joyce Presby (603-717-5457).

Saturday, Feb. 8

4th Annual Seed Saving Conference; 12 to 6 p.m., University of Maine, Farmington, Robert's Learning Center. The 2014 conference will focus on growing plants to save seed. Classes will include soil nutrition, isolation, insect control, seed-borne diseases, basic seed saving and advanced seed saving. Specifics about room numbers and speakers will be released mid-January along with brochures which will be available at the Saturday Farmington winter farmer's market and at The Better Living Center. This event is sponsored by Farmington Seed Savers Group. A \$5 donation is suggested to help with funding. (Snow date, Feb. 15).

The Peacheaters; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Music ranging from the Allman Brothers Band, the Black Crowes, the Grateful Dead, the Doors, Neil Young and more.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Small Business Seminar; 9 to 11 a.m., White Mountains Community College, 2020 Riverside Avenue, Berlin, N.H. Topic: A resource panel for technical assistance, financing and more. Open to the public. FMI/registration: Joyce Presby (603-717-5457).

Friday, Feb. 14

Sweetheart Hike; 4 p.m., Bald Pate parking area. A moderately strenuous sunset/moonrise hike. Snowshoes, traction devices, headlamp, proper winter clothing and boots required. Water and snacks recommended. FMI: 647-4352 or jon@lelt.org.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Full Moon Hike; 5 p.m., Mt. Abram. Skis and boards will be transported to the top so hikers can ski or ride back down following the hike.

AudioBody; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. The Tardy Brothers are back, this time as AudioBody, complete with an arsenal of audio-visual inventions. Tickets: Adults/\$8, Children 12 and under/\$5, under 5 free.

Sunday, Feb. 16

Torchlight Parade; 6 p.m., Mt. Abram. Annual torchlight parade and all you can eat spaghetti dinner buffet.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

Mahoosuc Land Trust Book Club; 7 p.m., Land Trust office. The book for February is "Grizzly Years," by Doug Peacock. Light refreshments will be served. FMI: 824-3806.

Feb. 21 and 22

"Guys and Dolls" by the Hebron Academy Players; 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7), Lepage Center for the Arts, Hebron Academy. Free and open to the public.

Feb. 25, March 4, 11 and 18

Wilderness First Aid-SOLO Course; Telstar High School. Cost: \$160, materials included. Instructor: Calvin Vaillencourt. FMI/Registration: 824-2780 or www.sad44.maineadulted.org.

Tuesday, Feb. 25

Bonifontes Czech Boys Choir; 7 p.m., Helen C. Berry Auditorium, Telstar. FMI/tickets: www.mahoosucarts.org or 890-6386.

March 8 and 9

Winter Kids Downhill 24; The Downhill 24 benefits Winter Kids. Teams compete to see how can ski the most laps in 24 hours. There is live music, zumba and other events during the 24 hour event. Last year over \$42,000 was raised. FMI/registration: www.winterkids.org.

Sunday, March 30

SAD 44 Ski Free Day; Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CRISSCROSS – THE LONG “U” SOUND

Each word will fit into one spot in the grid. Use the starting letters as a guide and fit each word into its spot. All words will be used, so cross off each one after you put it into the grid.

3 Letters

EWE

WHO

YOU

4 Letters

BLUE

FUSE

HUGE

NEWS

RUBY

ZOOS

5 Letters

JUICE

SHOES

6 Letters

BRUISE

FRUITS

WOUNDS

7 Letters

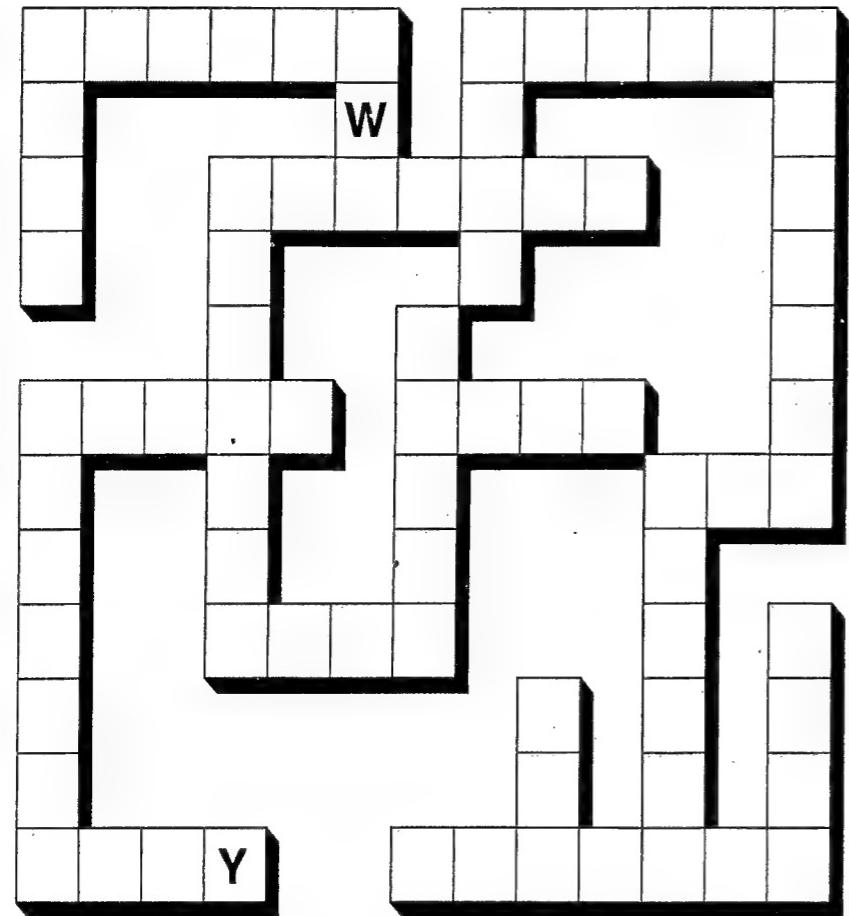
CRUISES

JUNIPER

SHAMPOO

UNICORN

UTENSIL

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com**SCRAMBLERS**

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

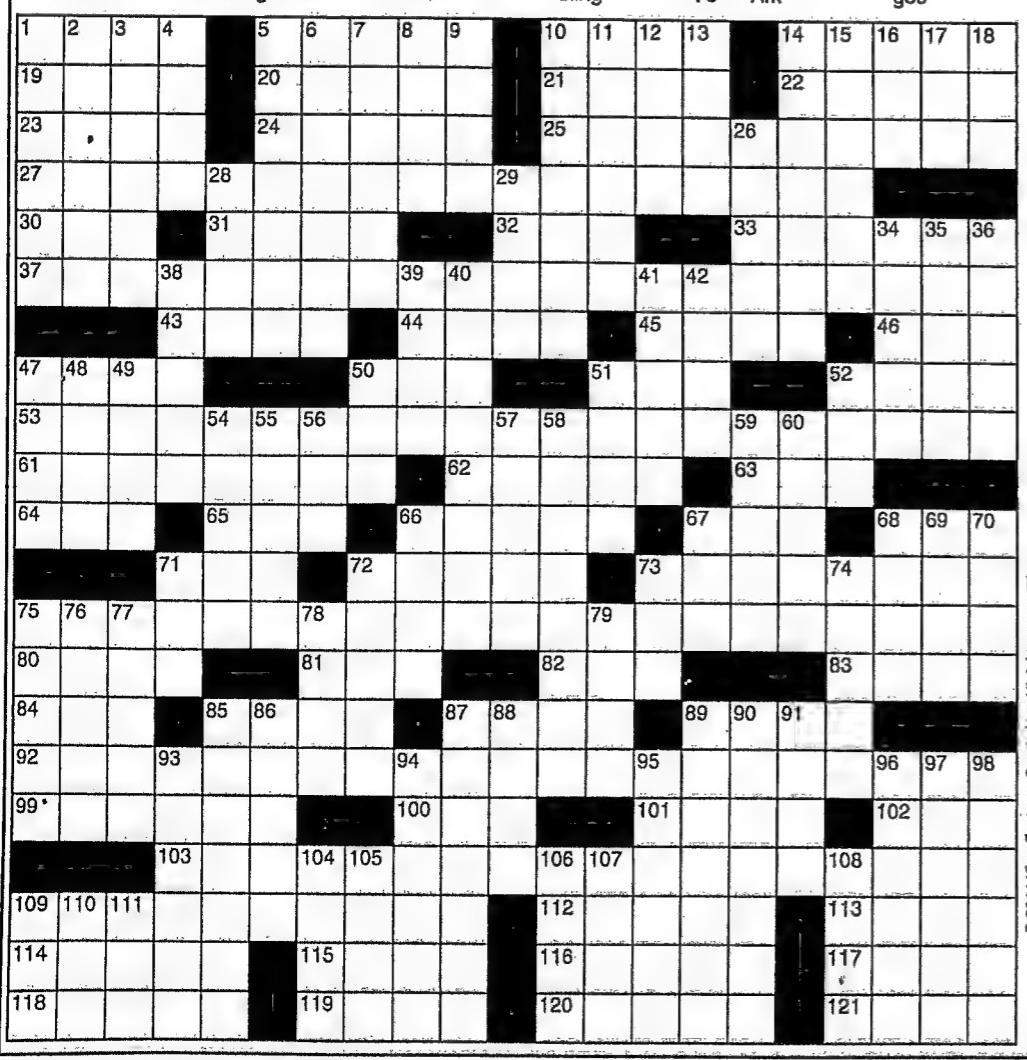
Secret	VECTOR	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Show	DAPILYS	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Blunt	CIDDAN	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Plain	PSMILE	<input type="text"/>

TODAY'S WORD

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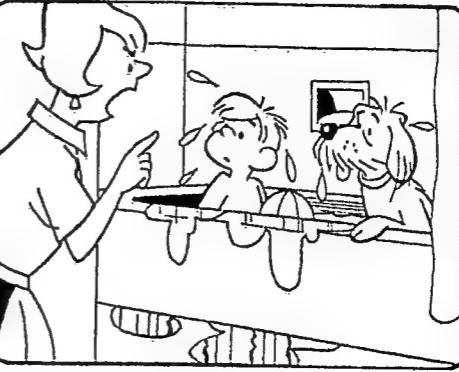
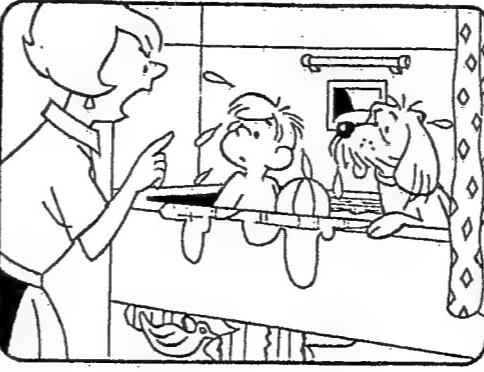
Super Crossword**TEACHING THE TABBY METHOD**

ACROSS	1 Composer Bartók	50 Mr. Capote, to his friends	89 Counterpart of "Sir"	7 Form anew, as a sentence	40 United Arab Emirates'	77 Rid of some rodents
5 Does' mates	51 "La Cage — Folies"	92 End of the riddle	8 Perfumed powder	41 Closes	78 Fork (off)	79 Virgo, e.g.
10 Cellar, in ads for apt.	52 Cogito-sum connector	99 Bible book before Job	9 Editor's "put" this back in	42 Voluptuous	80 Tennis	85 Mass near a tonsil
14 Clean vigorously	53 Riddle, part 3	100 Veiled	10 Overgrown with limbs	47 Tennis situation	86 Around, in a date	87 Instigates
19 Neeson of film	61 Part of a PA system	101 Be sore	48 See 18- Down	49 Many a flat- screen	88 Extensive	89 "Mother —" (old Irish song)
20 — a time (item by item)	62 Melms	102 Metal source	50 Elliot's Rum	51 Tugger	90 Olympic	91 1940s film
21 San — (Riviera resort)	63 Ely or Paul	103 Riddle's	51 — "boy!"	52 Vast span	92 Track star	93 Actress
22 Stop for a bit	64 Ida, neighbor	104 Cities plus their suburbs	52 Add zest to	54 Hiker's path	94 Evelyn	95 Critic James
23 Bruish beast	65 Point a pistol	105 Oldsmobile of 1999-	53 Redeemed,	55 ET tales, say	96 Utters	97 Smith
24 Aunt's husband, in France	66 Port city in Florida	2004	54 Make public	56 — pah band	98 Perot	99 Puts H2O on
25 Coerced	67 Eatery bill	113 Like most cupcakes	55 Profit from	57 Herb in curr	100 Walk across	101走
27 Start of a riddle	68 Quarterback	114 From Tehran	58 With 48- Down, Burgundy or Chianti	58 Broken	102 Netting	103走
30 — be great if ...	71 "What's the —?" ("Same thing, right?")	115 Post-Q run	59 Rub off	60 Prize won by	104 Really must	105走
31 Filly's feed	72 Gillis of an	116 More critical	60 Fritter away	61 Obama	106 Walking	107走
32 Pitching star	73 El Capitan's	117 Suit option	61 Not "for here," in a restaurant	62 Tattered	108 Hemingway	109走
33 Perceived to be	75 Riddle, part 4	118 Was gutsy enough	62 Not "for here," in a restaurant	63 Singer	109 In the flesh	110走
37 Riddle, part 2	80 Time of Christmas	119 Apt name for a herding dog	63 Simplified	64 Wait	110 — cap stock	111走
43 Imitate a supermodel	81 Poetic time after dusk	120 Simplified	64 Simplified	65 Tidbit	112 Eventful time	113走
44 Toe the mark	82 Tonic go-with	121 Pablo's "his"	65 Tidbit	66 Tabloid	114 Roofers	115走
45 Dickens villain Uriah	83 Cash spitter- outers	122 His	66 Tidbit	67 Wails	115 Goo	116走
46 That girl's	84 River in Switzerland	123 His	67 Winning by a single point	68 Color lightly	116 Stupified	117走
47 Horton Hears —!"	85 Big name in PCs	124 His	68 Honked	69 Tabloid	117 Ark	118走
	87 Long drink	125 His	69 Thing	70 Disarray	118 Stupified	

**HOCUS-FOCUS**

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



4. Towel bar is missing. 5. Dog's ear is smaller. 6. Shower curtain is different.

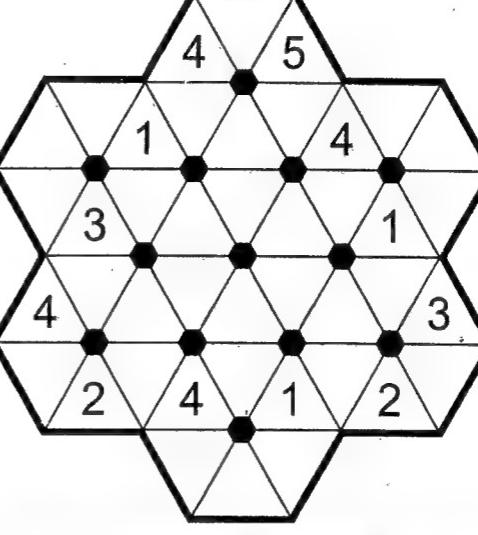
7. Hair is different. 8. Bird is missing. 9. Ball is moved.

Differences:

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Snowflakes

by Japheth Light

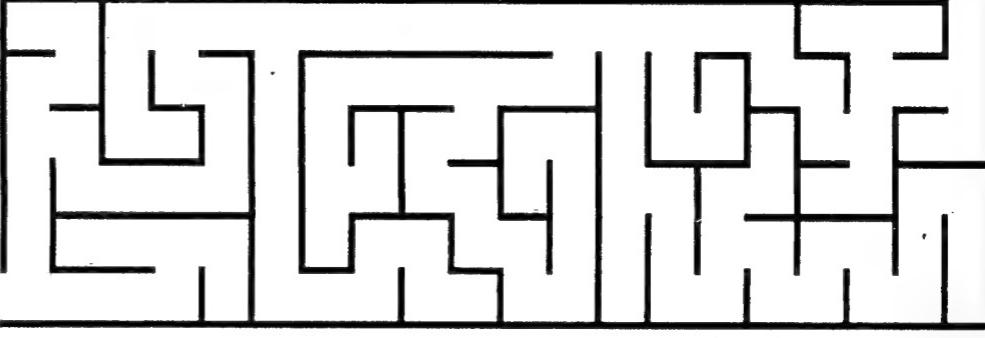


There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle.
Place the number 1-6 around each of them.
No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆◆ Difficult

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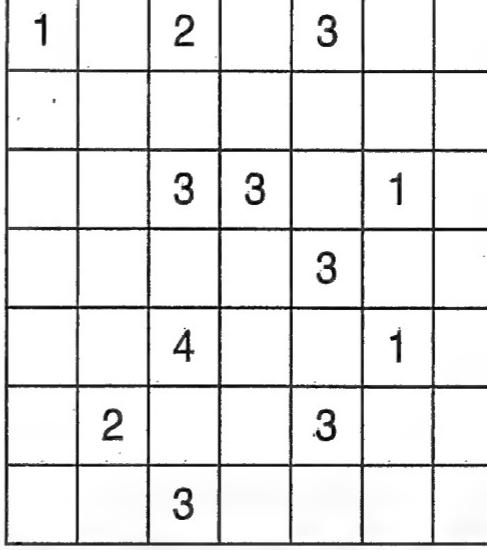
Kids' Maze

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Star Map

By Linda Thistle

Draw a star in exactly 10 of the empty squares in the diagram so that each numbered square accurately indicates how many immediately adjacent squares (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) contain a star.



DIFFICULTY: ★★

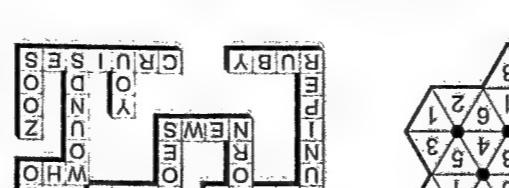
*Easy **Moderate ***YOWZA!

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SCRAMBLED
Today's Word:
3. Candid; 4. Simple;
1. Cover; 2. Display;

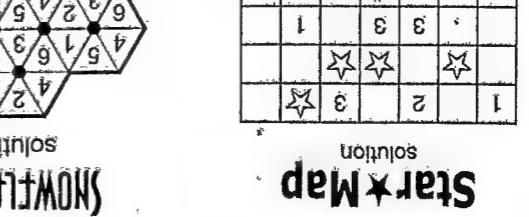
ALREADY
Answers
solution
Scrambled



Puzzles4Kids
ANSWER
solution
Scrambled



Answers
solution
Scrambled



ANSWERS
solution
Scrambled

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Bethel Historical Society reaches Annual Fund goal

Thanks to the kindness and financial generosity of many members, businesses and friends, the Bethel Historical Society's 2013 Annual Fund goal of \$45,000 has been achieved! Each year, the Annual Fund supports multiple programs and activities at the Bethel Historical Society. Just a few examples of the exciting things that occurred in 2013 include: Gould Academy students conducted an archaeological dig at the site of Dr. Mason's "library;" the Society's annual History Symposium explored how the Civil War is taught in secondary school; a new exhibit, "In the Field & On the Homefront: Bethel During the Civil War," was opened as the Society's contribution to the statewide Maine Civil War Trail project; local students in Grades 1 through 5 helped mark the 200th anniversary of the Dr. Moses Mason House by creating artworks under the theme of "The Old, Historic House" for the Faye Taylor Art Show; and an exceptional display of nearly fifty 19th century and contemporary White Mountain paintings drew hundreds of visitors to the newly-named "Howe Exhibit Hall" over the summer.

Understandably, all of these activities come with a cost. Fortunately, members and friends of the

Bethel Historical Society have long recognized the value of the organization's work of collecting, preserving and interpreting the local and regional past through their support of the Annual Fund. Providing about 30 percent of the Society's yearly income, the Annual Fund enables BHS to maintain the daily operations necessary to carry out high quality programs, exhibits and publications.

Recent donors to the Annual Fund are Edward A. Cellupica, Earle W. Chapman, Lynette Hirschman, Jeffrey and Tammy Mills, James W. and Deborah Day-Oliver, Matt and Kathy Ruby, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Verrill, Susan and Bill Herlihy, Stanley R. Howe, Ned Robertson, DMD, MS, Robert K. Stewart, Nancy Berges, Mary W. Eichel, Larry Glatz, Gray Marketing/Wende Gray, Kenneth and Katherine Griffin, Frederick and Beatrice LaPlante, Robert C. Parente, Lawrence Stifler and Mary McFadden, Christopher and Susan Tarr, Gwynne Morgan and William Golden, Linda Anne Bartlett, Dean and Sheila Bennett, Robert and Cynthia Blake, and the Stevenson Family Charitable Trust. All donors to the 2013 Annual Fund will be listed together in the Society's upcoming "Report of Giving," to be pub-

lished in the spring 2014 Broad Street Herald newsletter.

Founded in 1966, the Bethel Historical Society is the largest and most comprehensive historical organization in its region. With over 800 members, the Society fosters a sense of place – with a focus on western Maine and the White Mountain region of Maine and New Hampshire – by collecting, preserving, displaying and interpreting historically significant artifacts and documents for residents, visitors, students, and scholars. Through its exhibits, programs and publications, the Society strives to make the region's history meaningful, accessible, and enjoyable for people of all ages. In 1974, the Society acquired the 1813 Broad Street residence of Dr. Moses Mason, which contains a nine-room period house museum, exhibit hall and research library. In 1999, the Society added the adjacent O'Neil Robinson House (1821) to its facilities to house changing exhibits, a museum shop, and administrative offices. For nearly a half century, the Bethel Historical Society's wide-ranging achievements have been recognized by a number of state and national organizations.

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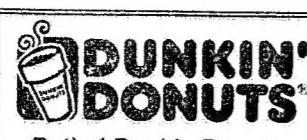
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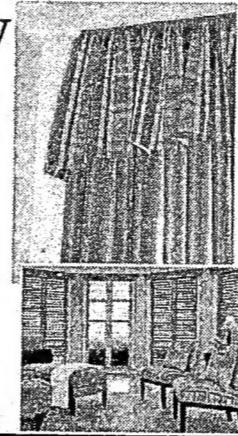
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Obituaries



PAULINE HATCH

On Dec. 23, 2013, Pauline Hatch lost a long fought battle with breast cancer while surrounded by family and friends at her Harrison home.

Born Pauline Estella Richardson in Denmark on April 1, 1942, she was the sixth of 10 children born to Mary and James Richardson.

Pauline worked most of her life, with many years at Bridgton Knitting Mill, and later at Pleasant Mountain Moc, also in Bridgton.

All through her life Pauline enjoyed many hobbies. She liked to knit and crochet while watching her soap operas in the afternoon, and also enjoyed doing puzzle books. She loved listening and dancing to country music, and as her health allowed, she would be found dancing the night away every Saturday night. Pauline enjoyed farming, hunting and fishing, hobbies that she passed onto her children as well.

On Oct. 9, 1999, Pauline married Bruce Hatch, whom she loved traveling and being with. Together they would vacation in many places across Maine and some places as far away as Florida.

In 2011, Pauline was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. She fought very hard and in early 2013 was said to be cancer free. In Nov. of 2013 it was discovered that the cancer had come back with a vengeance.

Pauline was a very generous and giving woman. Numerous times she had opened her home to those in need. She loved to cook

(well known for her pies and mile high biscuits!) and loved sharing the fruits of her labor with others. She passed this skill on to some of her family, as was evident at Thanksgiving when her 10-year-old grandson came to her house to make an apple pie for her because she was not feeling well enough to cook. Pauline taught us a lot, listened a lot more, and will be missed by many.

Pauline was predeceased by her husband, Bruce Hatch and siblings Silver, Burton, Helen, Kay, Ivan and Valeria.

Pauline is survived by a brother, Frank Richardson of Hiram; two sisters, Saranay Daniel of Denmark, and Francena of South Harrim; her children, Tracey (Robert) Robitaille of Bryant Pond, Tony Bean of Harrison, Tammy McAllister of Oxford, and James Bean of Harrison; six grandchildren, Chelsi (Justin) Emery, Joshua Noyes, Victoria McAllister, Wesley (Katy) Mcallister, Kristen Libby, and Zander Bean; three great-grandchildren, Alexis Mcallister, Anna-belle' and Lucas Emery. Pauline is also survived by many nieces and nephews who will miss her as well. Pauline leaves behind two Collies (Buddy and Charlie) and an American Eskimo dog (Energizer) who are lost without her.

A Celebration of her Life is being planned for June 21.



JOYCE M. BENNETT

Joyce M. Bennett, 90, of West Bethel, passed away Thursday, Jan. 2, at Ledgeview Living Center.

She was born in Bethel on July 15, 1923, daughter of Carroll and Mary (Grover) Abbott. Joyce attended Bethel schools and graduated from Gould Academy, then went on to nursing school. Later on in years, she worked at Bethel Inn and Sunday River Inn for Steve and Peggy Wight for many years until she retired.

Joyce was married for 53 years to Donald A. Bennett; they married on July 14, 1956.

Joyce is survived by two sons, Malcolm Bennett of West Bethel and Larry Bennett of Rumford; two daughters, Carolyn and her husband, Brad Gaudreau, of Bethel, and Carole and her husband, Mike Church, of Iowa; sister, Marilyn Gilbert of West Bethel; 11 grandchildren, Brandon and his wife, Kaylee Brown, of Bethel, Ashley and her husband, Zach Yates, of Mechanic Falls, Mathew Bennett, Shawn and his wife, Deanna Bennett, Thaddeus Bennett and his fiancée, Sarah Gardner, all of Rumford, Leann and her husband, David Whittemore, Tommy and Alley Bennett, all of Texas, and Trey, Jake and Angie Blackburn, all of Iowa; five great-grandchildren, Paige "Buggie," Paisley Yates and twin boys, Shane and Cade Brown, and Jace Blackburn; and one soon-to-be-great-granddaughter, Ellana Gardner Bennett, due in March.

Joyce was predeceased by her husband, Donald Bennett; and her parents.

A special thank-you to Penny Blake for taking such good care of her while she was at Ledgeview and for bringing her leftovers for lunch, supper and for all the other things you did, plus always getting what she asked for. Thanks.

Edith attended Upton schools and Fryeburg Academy.

She was a homemaker and worked in the fall for many years picking potatoes.

Edith was a member of Dixfield Nazarene Church. She was also a member of the Snowshoe Club and the Senior Citizens Club in Peru.

She loved attending Blue Grass Festivals, going to the Eagles on Friday night and just being the center of attention.

She brought sunshine and smiles to everyone she met.

Surviving are her life partner Lance Delano of Peru; six children, David Garey and wife Bette of Florida, Dennis Garey of Harrison, Tammy White and husband Billy of Peru, Ronald Garey of Rumford, Lawrence Garey of Norway, and Homer Garey and wife Tena of South Paris; three grandchildren that she raised, Katrina Richards of Rumford, Aaron Garey of Jay and Delanna Garey of Dixfield and many other grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents, a daughter Deborah Garey and a son Michael Garey.

A Celebration of Edith's Life will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11 at the Dixfield Plains Church of the Nazarene. The family would like to ask that anyone who wishes may bring an instrument to play and share in her service. Following the service, light refreshments will be served in the parish hall. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Edith's memory may be made to the Dixfield Plains Church of the Nazarene, 171 Weld Street Dixfield, Maine.

Arrangements are under the care of S.G. Tibault Funeral Home & Cremation Services 250 Penobscot Street Rumford, www.sgtibaultfuneral-home.com.

BARBARA F. BAKER

Barbara F. Baker, 81, of West Newfield, died on Nov. 20, 2013, at Goodall Hospital in Sanford after a brief illness.

She was born in Boston, Mass., on Sept. 1, 1932, the daughter of Frederick and Katherine (Coffee) Fisher. She came to Maine as a young child, attended local schools and was a 1950 graduate of Sanford High School.

Barbara worked in the cafeteria at the Shapleigh Elementary School some years back and more recently was employed at Augat, from which she retired several years ago.

She was a member of the

Order of Eastern Star in West Newfield and the Newfield Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary.

An avid reader, she also enjoyed cooking, baking and cross-stitching. Barbara made sure to watch the evening news on television. She also liked being outdoors in her vegetable gardens and bird-watching.

She was predeceased by her son, Paul W. Baker, in 2005.

Survivors include her husband of 59 years, Ronald E. Baker, of West Newfield (formerly of Bethel and Locke's Mills area);

daughter, Kathi Baker and her companion, Mark A. Hartwell, of West Newfield;

and granddaughter, Haileigh R. Marston and her daughter, McKenzie Cunningham, of West Newfield.

PAULINE HATCH

OBITUARY

OBITUARY